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7 ஏற்றமிகு ஏழு திட்டங்கள்

புதிய திட்டங்கள் தொடக்க விழா
பணி ஆணைகள் – அரசு நலத்திட்ட உதவிகள் வழங்கும் விழா
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அடிக்கல் நாட்டு விழா

அடிக்கல் நாட்டுபவர்

திரு. **மு.க.ஸ்டாலின்** அவர்கள்

மாண்புமிகு தமிழ்நாடு முதலமைச்சர்

நாள் : 28.2.2023,
செவ்வாய்க்கிழமை காலை 9.30 மணி

இடம் : அண்ணா நூற்றாண்டு
நினைவு நூலக அரங்கம், சென்னை.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** received petitions from members of the public and from differently-abled persons, when he went in person to the office of the Tahsildar of Omalur Division, Salem District, for inspection under the "Chief Minister on field inspection" scheme, on 15.02.2023.

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Nilavarai Neelpugazh Aatrin Pulavaraip
Poatraadhu Puthael Ulagu *-Kural:234*

Even the new world will not praise the sagacious ones alone, in preference to those who have attained fame through their selfless deeds.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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First Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** inaugurated the extended Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme by distributing parcels of Breakfast food to three students, to benefit 56,098 students in 433 schools in 36 urban local bodies, under the seven ambitious schemes of the Government at a function held at the Anna Centenary Library auditorium on 28.02.2023.

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Birthday celebrations of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin

On the occasion of his 70th birthday on March 01.03.2023, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, paid his respects to the portrait of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, kept at his residence in Gopalapuram, and at the memorial of Thanthai Periyar in Vepery and at the memorials of MuthamizharignarKalaignar and Perarignar Anna on the Marina.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO THE HON'BLE CHIEF MINISTER OF TAMIL NADU

The Hon'ble President of India **Tmt.Droupadi Murmu**, in her letter of birthday greetings said, "Apart from extending my hearty birthday greetings to you, I wish you a healthy and happy life and greet you for a long life to serve the Nation with dedication".

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India , **Thiru. Narendra Modi**, extended his birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of on 28.02.2023 over telephone. The Hon'ble Chief Minister on 28.02.2023 thanked the Hon'ble Prime Minister for his birthday greetings.

The Hon'ble Vice-President of India **Thiru. Jagdeep Dhankhar**, in his letter of birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, said,"While extending my warm birthday greetings to you, I wish you a happy and healthy life to serve the country".

The Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs **Thiru. Amit Shah** contacted the Hon'ble Chief Minister over phone and extended his birthday greetings to him. The Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked his to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister.

The Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. R.N.Ravi**, in his letter of birthday greetings said, "I wish you a long and healthy life to you".

The Hon'ble Governor of Telangana **Tmt. Tamilisai Soundararajan** extended her birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Tmt.Sonia Gandhi former president of the All-India Congress Committee, extended her birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, over telephone.

Former president of the AICC and a sitting MP **Thiru. Rahul Gandhi** contacted the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, over telephone and wished him a happy and healthy birthday.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala **Thiru. Pinarayi Vijayan** extended his greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu through social media.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi **Thiru. Arvind Kejriwal**, conveyed his birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** through social media.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh **Thiru. Y.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy** extended his birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** through social media.

The following leaders also extended their birthday greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin

National Secretary of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) **Thiru. Sitharam Yechuri,**

Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Information and Broadcasting **Thiru. L.Murugan**,

Tamil Nadu State President of the BJP **Thiru. Annamalai**,

former Union Minister **Thiru. Pon.Radhakrishnan**,

founder leader of the Pattali Makkal Katchi **Dr. Ramadoss**,

president of the PMK and the Rajya Sabha member **Dr.Anbumani Ramadoss**,

Thiru. G.K.Mani
PMK Legislative Assembly party leader

president of the Makkal Needhi Maiam **Thiru. Kamalhaasan**,

Actor **Thiru. Rajinikanth**,

Isaignani **Thiru. Ilaiyaraja,**

Desiya Murpokku Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam president **Thiru. Vijayakanth**,

Samathuva Makkal Katchi president **Thiru. Sarathkumar,**

Chief Co-ordinator of Naam Tamilar Katchi **Thiru. Seeman**,

Thavathiru Kundrakudi Ponnambala Adigalar,

Deputy Mayor of England **Dr. Monica Devendran,** Hon'ble Minister for Education and Labour Welfare, Kerala, **Thiru. V.Sivankutty** and actress **Ms. Gayathri Raghuram**.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**, in a function held in connection with his birthday celebrations at the Sirumalar Higher Secondary School for Vision and Hearing Impaired Children on 28.02.2023.

I extend my warm welcome to all of you. When I was introduced in this function, the Sister said that I am going to give a heroic speech. But I have come here to make an affectionate speech.

You have affection for me and have reposed confidence in me. Similarly, I have love and affection for you. It is with these sentiments that I have come here to thank you and to receive your greetings. Since 1984, I have been coming to this school on my birthdays. Earlier, I used to come here on the date of my birthday. But now, I am coming here a day in advance, because, if I come on my birthday I will not be able to remain here for a long time and witness your cultural programmes. I would have to hurry due

to other commitments. But by coming a day in advance I can remain here for a long time and witness your show. I can remain with you for a long time, interact with you, witness your cultural programmes leisurely and receive your warm greetings. That is the reason I have come here a day in advance.

Tomorrow is my 70th birthday. I used to say, it would be great if my birthday came twice or thrice a year, so that I get an opportunity to meet you more frequently. But if that happens, my age will increase substantially!

Be that as it may, I feel immensely happy whenever I meet you. During the welcome speech, as well in your greetings and through the cultural shows, you listed various achievements of my Government. I will not say that this is my Government, it is our government. I myself was amazed to hear the list of achievements of the present Government in the last 22 months. In case we forgot, you have brought to my mind the achievements of the present Government. I consider this a reminder to me to carve out more achievements in the coming years and get your compliments.

We are running such a Government, a Government that gains your confidence, here. I would like to share one more piece of information here. Since 1984, I have been visiting this school in various positions, as an MLA, as Mayor of the Chennai Corporation, as the Leader of the Opposition, as the Local Administration Minister, as the Deputy Chief Minister and now as the Chief Minister.

But I would like to tell you one thing with certainty. Whether I occupy a position or not, I will always come here. I will come every year. I will come all my years. I have such affection for you. As far as Sirumalar School is concerned, my affection for you is always there. However many the positions I occupy, however many the events that I participate in, whether they are official meetings, party-oriented meetings and public meetings, more than the honour and pride that I get from attending those meetings is the happiness and joy and pride that I derive from attending this school function. I cherish your greetings, affection and enthusiasm in my mind and am ready to perform my duties for your sake. This much, I would like to say here. Once again, I thank you for your good wishes and there is no parallel to your greetings. There is no denial of that fact. Once again, I thank you all for your hearty greetings to me.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates 7 iconic schemes

ஏற்றமிகு ஏழு திட்டங்கள்

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** after inaugurating seven Iconic Schemes - on 28.02.202.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K.Stalin at a function at the Anna CentenaryLibrary on 28.02.2023, inaugurated 7 Iconic Schemes - special nutrition scheme for nutrient-deficient children and mothers, increasing the honorarium from Rs.1,000 to Rs.1,500 for transgenders, extension of Hon’ble Chief Minister’s Breakfast Scheme in Corporation and Municipal areas, Special scheme for Sanitation workers, by modernizing the sewerage works and make their family members entrepreneurs, priority to differently-abled persons in issuing free house-site pattas and laying of foundation stones for new hospital buildings, at a cost of at Rs. 1,136.32 crore and handing over appointment orders for various Government services to candidates selected through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and on compassionate grounds.

The Dravidian Model Government in Tamil Nadu, which is following the path laid by Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna and Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, has been implementing many schemes beneficial to the poor and downtrodden people, students and farmers, with inclusive growth of all people, all departments, all districts and all communities. For the welfare of farmers, free power supply to over 1.50 lakh farmers, Hon’ble Chief Minister’s Breakfast Scheme, free bus service to women, Rs. 1,000 per month for girl students who pursue higher education under the Pudhumai

Penn Scheme, Naan Mudhalvan Scheme of Skill Development and Guidance for students, apart from their normal education, Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme, Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam Scheme, Innuyir Kappom, Nammai Kaakum 48 Scheme, Our School Foundation Scheme for development of local Government schools, Perasiriyar Anbazhagan School Development Scheme, Kalaignar's All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Scheme, Chief Minister in your constituency scheme, Chief Minister's on field visit, Dream House Scheme for writers and Olympic Gold Hunt Scheme to encourage sportspersons, are some of welfare schemes that are being implemented by the Government.

In continuation of these welfare schemes, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu inaugurated 7 Iconic Schemes in the State:

Special Nutritious Scheme for nutrient-deficient children and women:

Under the Scheme, 1,11,216 nutrient deficient children, in the age group of 6 months to 6 years will be given special Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) for 56 days and 11,917 lactating mothers of children up to 6 months, will be given 2 nutritious packs, that will ensure enough mother's milk for the children. As a mark of inaugurating the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed Nutritious packs to 5 mothers.

Ready to Use Therapeutic Food, in the form of paste, has been recommended by UNICEF for improving the nutritious level of children. The paste contains crushed groundnut, milk powder, oil, sugar, vitamins and minerals. The nutritious pack for the lactating mothers contains iron syrup, seedless dates, tablets to remove worms from the intestines, Aavin ghee and a cotton towel.

Increase in pension for Transgenders to Rs. 1,500: To ensure a decent living for transgenders and to give recognition to them, Muthamizharignar named them as Thirunangaiyar (Transgenders) and for the first time in the country formed a welfare board for them int the year 2008.

Through the welfare board, the Government issues an identity card, ration cards, subsidy for starting self-employment, self help group training, insurance cards and free sewing machines. As a part of the welfare schemes, the Government is also giving a pension of Rs. 1,000 per month for poor transgenders above 40 years of age. This monthly pension has been increased to Rs. 1,500 a month.

As a mark of increased pension for the transgenders, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the revised pension to 3 transgenders.

Extension of Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister launched the free breakfast scheme on 15.09.2022 for Government elementary school students from first to fifth standard to prevent school dropouts, to increase the attendance of children in schools, to improve their nutrition level and to reduce the burden of mothers going to work. At present 50,306 students, studying in 539 schools in 15 Corporations and 23 Municipalities under 38 urban local bodies are getting morning breakfast under the Scheme. For this purpose, 46 integrated kitchens have been set up, where the breakfast is prepared daily, packed in hot boxes and dispatched to schools in time, through special vehicles.

As the scheme has been widely welcomed by the people, it is to be extended to Tiruchirappalli, Kancheepuram, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Kumbakonam, Vellore, Avadi, Madurai, Salem, Dindigul, Tirunelveli, Erode, Nagercoil, Coimbatore and Thoothukudi Corporations and to Mettupalayam, Madukkarai, Kovilpatti, Villupuram, Tiruvannamalai, Tiruvanthipuram, Arcot, Ambur, Vaniyambadi, Pudukkottai, Perambalur, Jayankondam, Nagapattinam, Mannargudi, Sirkazhi, Namakkal, Tiruchengode, Paramakudi, Karaikudi, Nandivaram-Guduvancheri and Maraimalai Nagar Municipalities. Totally, 56,098 students in 433 schools in 36 urban local bodies will benefit under the extended breakfast scheme. As a mark of the inauguration of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over morning breakfast packets to 3 students.

Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB) and the Dalit India Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DICCI):

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Chennai Metro Water and the ICCI to avert the death of sewerage workers during cleaning of sewerages, to modernize the

sewerage operations by using the latest techniques and provide entrepreneurship programme by integrating the sewerage workers and their family members, in the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Through this MoU, the families of deceased sewerage workers are identified, given proper advice and guidance is provided to the families of Adi Dravidars, tribes and sanitary workers' and they are taught how to participate in the tenders and to make use of the subsidies from Government welfare schemes and are made into entrepreneurs.

They will be given training in the maintenance of sewerage pipes through modern machines and in the safe cleaning of noxious tanks and all steps taken to transform them into enterprises engaged in the conservancy process. The MoU will be implemented in the Greater Chennai Corporation areas through the Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

Foundation Stones were laid for 44 medical buildings to be constructed at a cost of Rs. 1,136.32 crore, on behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department.

Ariyalur District – Jayankondam, Chengalpattu District – Tambaram, Dindigul District – Palani, Kallakurichi District – Tirukovilur, Ramanathapuram District – Paramakudi, Tiruvallur District – Tiruttani, Tirupattur District – Tirupattur, Tiruppur District – Kangeyam, Vellore District – Gudiyatham, Villupuram District – Tindivanam and Virudhunagar District – Aruppukottai. The Government Hospitals in the above towns will be upgraded as District Headquarters Hospitals, at a cost of Rs. 550.85 crore.

High-tech treatment in Thoothukudi Government Medical College Hospital, Mother and Child Care Centre and Emergency

Treatment Centre in Tiruchendur Government Hospital in Thoothukudi District, Out-patient wings and intensive care units, X-Ray wing at the Ambur and Vaniyambadi Government Hospitals, at a total cost of Rs. 206.82 crore;

Emergency care centre buildings with 50-bed and 100-bed wards in the Chengalpattu Government Medical College Hospital, Sivagangai Medical College Hospital and the Government Hospitals in Melur in Madurai District, Uthangarai in Krishnagiri District and Sholinganallur in Chennai District, totally at a cost of Rs.131 crore.

New Maternity Care Centre Buildings in Kasturba Gandhi Hospital, Chennai, R.S.R.M Hospital, Kilpauk Government Medical College Hospital , Tiruvannamalai Government Medical College Hospital, Pennagaram District Government headquarters Hospital in Dharmapuri District, Tondiarpet Government Hospital and Avinashi Government Hospital in Tiruppur District, at a total cost of Rs. 120.65 crore.

Three more additional storeys at a cost of Rs. 100 crore at the Integrated Emergency Treatment Centre at Karapattu Arignar Anna Memorial Cancer Hospital, additional buildings at the Paramakudi Government Hospital in Ramanathapuram District, an integrated Emergency Care Centre at the Jayankondam Government Hospital in Ariyalur District, at a total cost of Rs. 13 crore;

New integrated laboratories in Cuddalore Government Medical College Hospital and Government District Headquarters Hospitals in Pollachi in Coimbatore District, Cheyyar in Tiruvannamalai District, Saidapet Government Hospital in Chennai, Valliyur in Tirunelveli District, Palani in Dindigul District, Manapparai in Tiruchi District, Melur in Madurai District, at a total cost of Rs. 8 crore.

New buildings for the Primary Health Centres in Manjakollai and Orangur in Cuddalore District, Adalur Pandrimalai and Markampatti in Dindigul District, and Sankarapuram in Sivagangai District at a total cost of Rs. 6 crore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu laid the foundation stones for medical buildings in various districts, at a total cost of Rs. 1,136.32 crore.

Free House site pattas to Differently-abled persons on priority basis:

The Hon'ble Chief Minister Tamil Nadu inaugurated distribution of free house-site pattas on priority basis to differently- abled persons who are below the poverty line, to enable them to build houses through the Revenue and Disaster Management Department. As a mark of distribution of free house-site pattas, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over pattas to 5 beneficiaries.

Distribution of appointment orders to candidates selected through the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and on compassionate grounds.

On behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, 192 candidates were selected for the posts of Regional Health Statisticians and

28 persons were selected for the posts of vaccine storekeeper in the Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine by the Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission. To mark the inauguration of the scheme, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over orders to 5 selected statisticians and 2 selected for the post of storekeepers.

On behalf of the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, 10 persons were selected for the posts of Assistant Directors by the TNPSC and 3 selected candidates were given the orders to mark the inauguration of the scheme.

In the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department, 50 persons were given appointments on compassionate grounds for the post of Junior Assistants, Revenue Assistants, Office Assistant, Record Clerks and Work Supervisor. Of the selected, 5 were given appointment orders as a token.

Speech Delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

My warm welcome to all of you.

Our Hon'ble Minister, Thiru. Ma. Subramanian, in his welcome address, mentioned about this scheme.

My thoughts dwell around this place where the 7 Iconic Schemes are to be launched. If I have to make a particular mention of this, the words of Muthamizharignar come to my mind.

There is a special significance to the letter three. There is the fragrance of the three-fold division of Tamilians had the three great rulers (Chera, Chola and Pandya), their three flags, the three fruits, and the three drums.

Their Tamil 'Vaazhvu' has three letters. The 'Anbu' (affection) that is the basis of that

life has three letters. The ‘Arivu’ (intellect) that supports that love has three letters. The ‘Kaadhal’ (love) that arises between those impelled by that intellect, has three letters. ‘Veeram’, the great valour supported by lovers, has three letters. ‘Kalam’, the warfront that arises due to bravery, has three letters. ‘Vetri’, the victory that is gained there has three letters. The one who motivate us for that victory, calm ‘Anna’ has three letters.

This is the tribute sung by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar about Perarignar Anna.

I feel thrilled and energized in participating in the function held in a place, which is named after Arignar Anna. Before the formation of the DMK Government in the State, we conducted a big public meeting in Tiruchi. The meeting was not convened for political reasons. It was convened to draw plans about the changes that would be brought if the DMK party forms the Government in the State. The meeting was convened to explain the great plans of the party. I informed at the meeting how the party Government would function in the State and the action plan for the next 10 years in advance.

Increasing opportunities - A prosperous Tamil Nadu! Increase in Yield, Happy farmers! Continuous water supply to all people! Quality education to all people! High-tech medical facility to all! Prosperity and opportunities for all! A state of beautiful cities! High-tech rural infrastructure! High standard of living! These were announced in the conference as ‘Stalin’s seven promises’.

I mentioned in the conference that the party’s journey would be based on the Seven objectives and they were the Economy, Agriculture, Drinking water, Education, Urban Development, Social Security and Rural Development.

I am really proud to share with you that we are successfully marching towards the target.

Fare-free bus travel: While preparing the election manifesto, I consulted various sections of people. One of the important suggestions was that of free bus travel for women. When people opposed the scheme stating it would affect the income of the already cash-strapped transport corporations, I replied that if I implemented it, it would bring cheer in the lives of women. We won the election. Officials asked me, before the swearing-in ceremony about the schemes be announced and I immediately replied, Free Bus travel Facility for Women.

The first file that I signed immediately at the Fort St. George after taking charge as the Chief Minister as Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin, was free bus travel for women. So far, 236 crore trips by women have been made. Through this scheme, women have attained economic independence and their social participation has increased. This scheme has brought name and fame to the Government.

The next signature was to reduce the price of Aavin milk by Rs. 3. That price reduction is also for the benefit of women.

If you ask me what was the next signature. It was the file for sanctioning Rs.4,000 per family by the present Government as Corona relief. The economy of many families was in shambles because of Corona and at that time, I urged the previous Government to sanction Rs. 5,000 per family. But the then Government did not lend ears to my demand. But immediately after taking charge as the Chief Minister, my second signature was to sanction Rs. 4,000. This money was of great help in improving the livelihood of people.

Naan Mudhalvan Scheme: It is in this line, that my Dream Scheme 'Naan Mudhalvan' is a scheme that lights the lives of the youth.

After our party came to power, many industry-based investments have come to Tamil Nadu. At that time, I had an opportunity to interact with industrialists. Some of the industrialists mentioned to me that even if new industries are started, there is lack of skilled youth to work in them. Considering that, the scheme that came up in my mind was the 'Naan Mudhalvan' Scheme has been conceived for developing skilled personnel in large numbers in the State.

The Scheme has been conceived to make the students of Tamil Nadu multi-faceted personalities with the best in education, knowledge and thinking capacity. This scheme was started on March 1 last year. In the last one year, more than 17 lakh students studying in 1,300 engineering and arts colleges in the State have learnt and are learning skills. All-our efforts are made to make the Tamil Nadu youth as the leading ones at the international level. This scheme will benefit generation after generation.

The Government has completed 2 years of office. So far, we have attracted investments to the tune of over Rs. 2 lakh crore. We have planned to implement rural drinking water schemes to the tune of Rs. 2,563 crore. Water resources have increased due to rains. Area coverage under agriculture has increased substantially. The implementation of our schemes has greatly benefited education from school education to higher education.

The Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department has given administrative sanction to 446 drinking water schemes worth Rs. 18,815 crore and 23 underground drainage schemes valued at Rs.4,499 crore. Rural Development Schemes to the tune of Rs. 49,385 crore have been formulated.

Both the women free travel scheme as well as the women's entitlement money to be announced are social security schemes.

Seven Iconic Schemes:

As a continuation of those social security schemes, I am going to inaugurate 7 important schemes.

Tomorrow is March 1, my 70th birthday. Of these 70 years, I have spent 55 years in public life. I considered all families in the State as my

family and entered into public life at an early age. When people asked me what I would have been doing if I had not entered politics, I told them that I would definitely be only in politics.

It was Thanthai Periyar, Perarignar Anna, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar and Inamana Perasiriyar who made me think that politics is not for power but a duty and service to the people.

This is the way I have grown up. I have fixed targets to achieve through my responsibilities. Nobody fixes a target for me. I fix them for myself. I work hard to attain those targets. The common target is seeing God in the smiles of the poor. That is why we have started many schemes beneficial to poor people. Schemes every day is my plan in the Dravidian Model Government. Formulating schemes every day is my work. In this way, in this function I am proud to inaugurate 7 Iconic Schemes.

First Scheme: An agreement is to be signed today for putting an end to manual scavenging in the State.

Tamil Nadu occupies the primary position in many fields. This removal of manual scavenging is going to be one such primary scheme. When the conservancy workers engaged in cleaning sewers, many of them died due to the hazards they face while doing their job.

The families of workers who work throughout their lives for protecting the health of the public, suffer due to the lose of their breadwinners and lost their livelihood and future. This situation disturbs our hearts. To remove these tribulations, the State Government has been taking many steps in the last 2 years. I inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Sanitation Workers Development Scheme in Madurai, in which the health workers were identified, and the practice of proper safety procedures and their livelihood was ensured. The scheme is now being implemented in full swing.

The next phase of the plan is to completely prevent casualties during the maintenance of underground drainage systems and removal of sewage. The scheme is to integrate sanitation workers and their families and the scheme, to start with, will be implemented in the Greater Chennai Corporation. The programme is to identify the sanitation workers and their families, give them priority and upgrade them by making them entrepreneurs in co-ordination with the DICCI. As entrepreneurs, they will be given training in the use of modern machineries for the cleaning work.

Under the scheme, the selected sanitation workers and their families will be provided with modern machineries and vehicles as well as skill training. This scheme is to be implemented in Greater Chennai Corporation first in co-ordination with the Chennai Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board and subsequently to other parts of the State.

Second Scheme:

A special scheme to give nutritious food to malnourished children. Children should be born as healthy babies and grow as healthy babies. Only then will their future be bright.

On May 7, during my speech in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, I presented a statistic with a heavy heart. It is that nearly the majority of children who are less than 6 years of age, are found to be nutrient-deficient, when tested. A majority of the children do not have proper weight and height. Taking this into consideration, I announced a scheme at that time itself to give children nutritious food. A monitoring directorate was started for this purpose. 37 lakh children, in the age group of 6 months to 6 years will be given RUTF food. The nutrition level of mothers of 6 month old children will be improved and the mothers of these babies will be given Nutrition packs. Supply of eggs to children will be increased from one to 3; besides this, nutritious biscuits will be given to three. These children are continuously monitored. Through these measures all children will become healthy through nutritious food.

Third Scheme:

This Government has been executing various schemes for differently abled persons. In continuation of those schemes, the Government is going to give priority to them in issuing free house-site pattas. The differently abled persons who are below the poverty line will be given free house-site pattas through the Revenue and Disaster Management Department to enable them to build houses of their own.

Fourth Scheme:

For transgenders also the Government is implementing various schemes in the path of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. The monthly pension to transgenders will be increased from Rs. 1,000 to Rs.1,500.

Fifth Scheme:

Employment opportunities are being created in various Government Departments and hundreds of appointment letters have been distributed.

Sixth Scheme:

The breakfast scheme of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, which is a pioneering scheme in the country will be extended to more schools. The scheme was launched on September 15 last year, on the birth anniversary of our mentor Arignar Anna, for the Government elementary school students from first to fifth Standards.

At present 50,306 students studying in 539 schools in 15 Corporations and 23 Municipalities under 38 urban local bodies are getting breakfast under the Scheme. For this purpose, 46 integrated kitchens have been set up, where the breakfast is prepared daily, packed in hot boxes and dispatched to schools in time, through special vehicles. As the scheme has been widely welcomed by the people, it is to be extended to 433 schools in 36 urban local bodies from

tomorrow. Through this, an additional 56,098 students benefited. From tomorrow onwards the total number of students who benefit will be 1,06,404. This scheme is to be a welfare scheme for more than one lakh families.

Seventh Scheme:

Foundation stones have to be laid for new hospital buildings in 44 places at a total cost of Rs. 1,136.32 crore.

These seven schemes subsume within themselves education, health, upliftment of marginalized people, children and society and social justice.

Many more schemes are to come up in future. I affectionately request the Ministers, Department Secretaries, Department employees, including last grade employees to implement the schemes in keeping with their lofty aims.

The schemes formulated in the Secretariat should reach the last man in society. We are conceiving these schemes for their benefit only.

My goal is a strong Tamil Nadu, a prosperous Tamil Nadu, a Tamil Nadu where there is no poverty, an egalitarian Tamil Nadu, a self-respecting Tamil Nadu. A state is not created just by its borders. It is created by its values and culture. This is how Tamil Nadu should be. We are working for the betterment of Tamil Nadu that has made us what we are. In his time, Arignar Anna said, “Hey! opressed Tamil Nadu!” To change that situation, and to make everyone say that it is now a progressive Tamil Nadu, we, under our Dravida rule, will work ceaselessly. Nandri, Vanakkam.

‘First Generation Learners Training Centre’

The Chief Secretary to Government Dr. V. Irai Anbu I.A.S., established the ‘First Generation Learners training Centre’ under Corporate Social Responsibility Fund (CSR Fund) in a renovated building near Corporation Office, 8th Main Road, Kannagi Nagar at Okkiyam Thuraipakkam, Chennai on 21.02.2023.

‘Chief Minister on Field Visit’ programme

Hon’ble Chief Minister monitors progress of welfare schemes in various districts

Under the ‘Chief Minister on Field Visit’ programme, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** met representatives of various industrial associations, farmers’ representatives, and women Self-Help Groups in Salem, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri and Namakkal Districts and conversed with them - 02.02.2023.

Under the new ‘Chief Minister on Field Visit’ programme, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin reviewed the progress of various Government Welfare schemes in Vellore, Ranipet, Tirupattur and Tiruvannamalai Districts. He was in Vellore District on 01.02.2023 and 02.02.2023 in this connection.

In continuation of this, the Hon’ble Chief Minister Thiru. M.K.Stalin, who came to Salem on 15.02.2023, to review the progress of Government welfare schemes in Salem, Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri and Namakkal Districts, camped at the Omalur Taluk Office, reviewed the progress of various schemes, including that of patta transfer and old age pension, and the progress of work for two-tier bus stand under the Salem Smart City Scheme.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble Chief Minister interacted with the representatives of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Associations, Silver Anklets Manufacturers Association, Lorry Body Building Units Association, Readymade Garments Manufacturers' Association, Sago and Starch Manufacturers' Association, Mango Pulp Manufacturers Association, Farmers' Association, Farmer Producers Organization, Value added Millet Manufacturers' Association, Poultry Farmers' Association, Tribes Association and Women Self-Help Groups and heard their grievances.

During the interaction, Micro, Small and Medium-scale Industries Association members thanked the Hon'ble Chief Minister for supporting their cause and for offering concessions to the MSM units. They appealed to the Hon'ble Chief Minister to allot a plot and sanction funds for constructing a separate office, training hall and a conference hall in the Salem SIDCO complex and to reduce the peak hour power charges for the industries

The Hosur MSM Association requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister to take necessary steps to set up an airport at Hosur.

The Farmers Association demanded a Coconut Research Centre and Coconut Oil Manufacturing units in Pochampalli area in Krishnagiri District; a national-level

buyer-seller centre to enable the meeting of millet exporters and the manufacturers and a first grade millet processing unit and a godown in Dharmapuri District and an FM station, exclusively for farmers; were demanded by the value-added millet manufacturers Association.

The mango pulp manufacturers association petitioned for a biogas unit, utilizing mango residues such as skin and fibre and steps to set up export centre and a separate department for mango cultivation in Paiyur Agriculture Centre; Sago and Starch Manufacturers Association demanded minimum support price for sago and starch, credit interest subsidy for the sago units and a research centre for manufacturing value added products through Sagoserve.

The All-District Lorry Body Builders' Federation, Namakkal, wanted a common shed in the Lorry Body Building industrial Estate to help new entrepreneurs launch body building industries, supply of implements and provision of funds for the new entrepreneurs.

Tribes in Salem and Krishnagiri Districts demanded proper road facilities and veterinary hospitals in their areas.

After hearing the demands of various associations, the Hon'ble Chief Minister assured them that their demands would be

duly processed and suitable action taken on them. The members of the Self-Help Groups expressed their gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for extending various welfare measures to them and requested the Hon'ble Chief Minister to extend more such welfare measures to them.

Salem, Omalur taluk

In continuation of this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister arrived at Salem on 15.02.2023 to conduct review of various programmes in Salem, Krishnagiri and Namakkal Districts. On that occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the Taluk Office in Omalur and reviewed the programmes, including patta transfer and old-age pension.

During the review, the Hon'ble Chief Minister enquired the tahsildar and other Government staff that how many old age pensions had been sanctioned, how many petitions are pending for disposal, details regarding distribution of free dhotis and sarees and action taken on petitions received from the public.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister received petitions from the public. Most of the petitions pertain to the issue of house site pattas, succession certificate, ration card, and old age pension. Differently- abled persons, who were present on the occasion, appealed to the Hon'ble Chief Minister to provide them a three-wheeler petrol scooter and sanction them pension. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, who received the petitions, assured them that suitable action would be taken on their petitions.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the construction work of a double decker bus stand at the Salem old Bus stand at a cost of Rs. 92.13 crore, under the Salem Smart City Scheme.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, who came to Salem on 15.02.2023 to review the progress of schemes under the Chief Minister on Field Visit'

interacted with the school and college students, who were benefited under the ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ Scheme at the Salem Collectorate.

The students, who were trained under the Chief Minister’s dream scheme the ‘Naan Mudhalvan Scheme’, said that they were trained in the developing technologies such as Cloud Computing, Steel Structure, Electric Vehicle Charging system, Design, Artificial Intelligence and Robotics and explained the Hon’ble Chief Minister that how the training helped them in their employment opportunities.

The students also explained how the free training in co-ordination with the multi-national companies IBM, Microsoft, TCS, Infosys, Google, AWS, and L & T helped even the rural students to get employment opportunities in multi-national companies.

The students said that the training programme gave them confidence, through training in the high-tech based industries. It would improve their livelihood. The scheme gives them training in the changing technologies.

The students also profusely thanked the Hon’ble Chief Minister for giving the scheme to the student community

Later in the evening, at the Salem Collectorate, under the ‘Chief Minister on Field Visit Scheme’, the Hon’ble Chief Minister discussed the law and order situation with the high police officials of the Salem, Namakkal, Krishnagiri, and Dharmapuri Districts.

In the review meeting, the Hon’ble Chief Minister congratulated the District Collectors and the Police Superintendents for taking effective steps to prevent social crimes in their respective districts.

At the same time, the Hon’ble Chief Minister said an atmosphere must be created in which the public approach the police station without any fear and submit their petitions.

The relationship between the police and the public should be smooth and based on humanism. The higher officials should realize that their

approach towards the public would be reflected by their subordinates, ranked below them.

The activities of police should be transparent to the public. The Hon'ble Chief Minister felt that taking advance measures to prevent any possible crimes was always better than taking action after the crimes occur. For this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister wanted the information collected by the Q-Branch Police and the Intelligence wing of the police to be carefully analyzed and preventive measures taken.

The best characteristic of police is to prevent unlawful activities and crimes. If we are not careful with regard to religious and cultural functions, especially in temple festivals and bullock races, it would reflect only on the image of the Government and the District administration.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister felt that another area where the police should concentrate is eradication of drug activities. If the anti-drug activities are good in districts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said, then it should be strengthened

further in the entire zone. Similarly, they should concentrate more on State border areas. The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that frequent visits to police stations and meeting the people by the SPs concerned would earn them a good name among the public, besides issuing a subtle warning to policemen.

In these districts, the Hon'ble Chief Minister said police should be vigilant to prevent any possible communal violence. In this, the role of District Collectors is very important. At the weekly law and order meetings, the revenue department should review the situation in coordination with the Police and conduct peace talks wherever necessary and take action at the earlier stage itself.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister advised both the Revenue Department and the Police to clear all the pending cases at the earliest, in coordination with the Law Department. Cases pending for a long time would mostly end in favour of criminals. So the Police Superintendents should fix a time frame to end old cases. The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that police heads, their deputies and other higher police officials should review this aspect.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that our job is to work for the people. He pointed out that he would always congratulate police personnel who end the drug menace as it destroys the future of students and of the younger generation.

In most cases, the people affected by crimes are the middle class, poor and marginalized

people. Police should not act tough against them but find the truth of the cases and help them get justice. Only then would the statement that the Police department is the friend of the common man will become a reality.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister appealed to the police officials to function in keeping with the legacy and dignity of the Police Department.

Speech of the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu:

I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

People expect the Government to provide houses to live in, proper road facilities, drinking water facilities, street lights, schools and rural health. Whatever difficulties you find in giving these basic amenities, you should find a solution to those difficulties. In the districts, you are the face of the Government. Only through your ability and hard work you can find improvement in the life of the people. You should take this in your mind and act accordingly.

Next thing I want to stress is Agricultural production, value added products and Farmers Production Centres. Yesterday I met representatives of various associations. On that occasion, small millet farmers and value added products manufacturers gave important information. The Agriculture Department Secretary and the Collectors at the district level should take those information into consideration.

Improving the income of farmers is one of the important targets of this Government. Only if the lifestyle of farmers improves, the State will grow and then only the State will be considered as a developed State. So give preference to the implementation of Agriculture-oriented schemes.

Next I want to tell you about basic amenities in urban areas. As far as these 4 districts are concerned, there are many municipalities, including two developing growing Corporations, Salem and Hosur. In these places, the population is witnessing an increase due to increasing employment opportunities and improving life style in these districts. This in turn increases the expectations of the people about the services of the local municipalities. So you should concentrate more on removal of garbage, de-silting to avoid stagnation of water and repair of road works. Thousands of people would be benefitted by these works.

In a similar manner you should monitor the implementation of schemes pertaining to education that will benefit the people.

The next priority is for welfare schemes for the Adi Dravidars, tribes and marginalized people. As far as I am concerned, these schemes should be the top priority in your list. Housing facilities for them, entrepreneurship schemes, education assistance and schools and hostel facilities for them should be continuously monitored by your subordinates.

The next is social media, television and newspapers. One should not ignore their criticism about Government schemes. If their criticism is true you should not only rectify them but take steps to publish those details through those media. This is very, very important and you should keep this in mind.

Finally, I would like to tell you one thing. People are approaching the Government Departments for various demands. You must be considerate to them and hear their grievances patiently and give them a proper reply.

For example, at present, I think there is nobody to receive a petitioner in a taluk office, hear his/her grievance or demands and give proper guidance. This should be corrected. A receptionist is now available in all police stations . I suggest a similar mechanism in the departments which are in direct contact with the people. As I had mentioned earlier, all the development schemes are being implemented with people's welfare as the prime motive. It is your duty to take the schemes to the people. You must take action in time. No doubt you are doing it now, but I appeal to you to do even better. I congratulate employees of various departments at all levels for their good work.

Finally, I extend my greetings to the District administration and special schemes implementation department for making excellent arrangements for the review meeting. With this, I conclude my speech.

Nandri. Vanakkam

The gateway to golden memories

During my visit to Salem for a field review meeting, I saw the gateway to Modern Theatres on the way and asked for the vehicle to be stopped.

Established by T.R.Sundaram, Modern Theatres was the cradle of writers of the Dravidian movement; the birthplace of the sharp dialogues written by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. I took a photograph of the gateway to Modern Theatres.

The entrance to the great institution bears the golden memories of 118 immortal movies in 9 different languages.

-Social media post of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** (15.02.2023).

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Hon'ble Chief Minister unveils Kattabomman and Marudhu Pandiyar statues; bust of VOC

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** unveiled the statues of freedom fighters at Gandhi Mandapam Campus, Chennai on 14.02.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Tamil Development and Information Department, unveiled the statues of freedom fighters Veerapandiya Kattabomman, set up at a cost of Rs. 18 lakh, Marudhu Pandiyar, costing Rs. 34 lakh, and the renovated oil press drawn by V.O.Chidambaranar at Coimbatore Jail and the bust of V.O.Chidambaranar, at a cost of Rs. 43 lakh, at the Gandhi Mandapam Complex in Guindy, Chennai, on 14.02.2023.

During the demand for the Information and Public Relations Department in the Tamil Nadu Assembly for the financial year 2021-2022, it was announced that statues would be installed for the freedom fighter and Panchalakurichi chieftain Veerapandiya Kattaboman, who fought valiantly against the British and bravely accepted the death sentence, and for the Marudhu Pandiyar brothers, who ruled the Sivagangai Seemai and fought against the British regime, at the Gandhi Mandapam complex in Guindy, Chennai.

In addition, as part of the 150th birth anniversary celebrations of V.O.Chidambaranar on 03.09.2021, the Hon'ble Chief Minister made 14 announcements; these include renovation of the hall in the Gandhi Mandapam Complex where the oil press drawn by the V.O.Chidambaranar in the jail is kept, as well as unveiling of a bust of the great freedom fighter in the hall.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu unveiled the statues of Veerapandiya Kattabomman, set up at a cost of Rs. 18 lakh and the Marudhu Pandiyar, costing Rs. 34 lakh, and the renovated hall and the oil press drawn by VOC at Coimbatore Jail and his bust size statue, costing Rs. 43 lakh ■

Hon’ble Chief Minister makes surprise visit to modern paddy storage shed at Tiruvarur

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** conducted surprise inspection of the newly built modern paddy storage centre at Tiruvarur Godown complex - 21.02.2023.

In order to ensure food security for everyone and to increase the capacity of godowns with stored foodgrains for the public distribution system, more paddy storage centres are being built especially in the delta districts.

In this way, 106 modern paddy storage sheds with roofs, having a capacity of 1,42,450 metric tonnes at a cost of Rs. 105.08 crore, were declared open on 11.02.2023, by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, and will serve the districts of Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tiruchi, Pudukkottai, Madurai, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi and Tiruvallur.

Further to this, the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, paid a surprise inspection to the Tiruvarur Modern Paddy storage centre, which was built at a cost of Rs.2.35 crore and has a capacity of 4,250 metric tonnes at the Tiruvarur godown complex on 21.02.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister exhorted the officials to secure and safeguard from natural

disasters and rains, the grains of paddy grown by farmers with their strenuous effort, and see that the paddy is not affected by moisture.

At that point, the Hon'ble Chief Minister referred to the Chief Minister's Dashboard on his tablet and queried the District Collector about the progress of various schemes being implemented in Tiruvarur district. Pointing out the measures that needed to be taken up fast, the Hon'ble Chief Minister instructed the District Collector that they must be completed swiftly and without any delay.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister then went on to visit and oversee the construction site of the new, integrated modern bus stand in Mannargudi Municipality on 22.02.2023, estimated at a cost of Rs. 26.76 crore.

It was announced in the demand for grants for the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department for the year 2021–2022, that Mannargudi Municipality, Kamaraj Bus Stand, and Market Bus Stand would be established as a new integrated modern bus stand.

According to the announcement, Rs. 26.76 crore has been made aside for the construction of the Mannargudi New Integrated Modern Bus Stand. Municipality shops inside and outside the structure were closed, and demolition work is currently on. The rebuilt bus terminal will have 50 bus stops, 117 new shops, and upgraded toilets.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister inspected the construction work and instructed the officials to complete the work fast and bring the new bus stand to the use of the people.

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates 106 modern, covered godowns for Civil Supplies Department

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** declared open 106 modern, covered godowns - 11.02.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, declared open 106 modern covered buffer godowns, with a capacity of 1,42,450 metric tonnes, built at a cost of Rs. 105.08 crore in 8 districts and laid the foundation stone for constructing 12 block-level godowns, with a capacity of 28,000 metric tonnes, at a cost of Rs. 54 crore, at the Secretariat on 11.02.2023.

The Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation (TNCSC) which plays a major role in the food security and distribution of ration articles in the State, has been constructing godowns for increasing the storage capacity of food grains to meet the demand for the grains supply for the Public Distribution System in time.

106 modern, covered godowns

Paddy stocks are being procured by the Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation through its direct purchase centres and the procured paddy stocks are stored in godowns to protect the stocks from natural

disasters and rains. For this purpose, orders have been issued for construction of modern paddy storage godowns, with covered roofs in 18 places in 10 districts, with a capacity of 2,86,350 metric tonnes, at a cost of Rs. 238.07 crore.

Of these, godown works for 106 units, having a capacity of 1,42,450 metric tonnes, have been completed in Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Tiruchirappalli, Pudukottai, Madurai, Sivagangai, Thoothukudi and Thiruvallur Districts, at a cost of Rs. 105.08 crore. These completed modern paddy godowns were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Foundation stones have been laid for 12 taluk operational godowns:

On the same occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister also laid foundation stones for installing taluk operational godowns to move the food grains to fair price shops within the taluks quickly. In the 2022-2023 budget demand for the Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection Department, it was announced that for the storage of food grains, 12 taluk operational godowns, with a capacity of 28,000 metric tonnes at a cost of Rs. 54 crore would be installed.

As per the announcement, in Kalaiyarkovil Taluk with a capacity of 2,000 Metric Tonnes, at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore and in Singampunari Taluk with a capacity of 3,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 5 crore, both in Sivagangai District, in Ariyalur Taluk with capacity of 3,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 5 crore and Andimadam Taluk, with a capacity of 2,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore, both in Ariyalur District; in Anaicut Taluk with a capacity of 2,000 MT capacity at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore and in Pernambut Taluk 2,000 MT capacity at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore, both in Vellore District; in Gujiliamparai Taluk with a capacity of 2,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore; in Dindigul West Taluk, with a capacity of 2,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 4.10 crore both in Dindigul District; in Marungapuri Taluk with a capacity of 3,000 MT at a cost of Rs.5 crore in Tiruchirappalli District, Kollimalai Taluk with a capacity of 2,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 5 crore in Namakkal District; in Mettur Taluk with a capacity of 3,000 MT at a cost of Rs. 5.30 crore in Salem District; and in Polur Taluk with a capacity of 2,000 MT at a cost of Rs.4.10 crore in Tiruvannamalai District. Totally, foundation stones for 12 Taluk Operational Godowns, with a total storage capacity of 28,000 MT at a total cost of Rs.54 crore were laid by the Hon'ble Chief Minister, through video conferencing from the Secretariat on 11.02.2023.

Through this, the food items supplied to the ration shops can be safely stored within the respective circle and moved without any delay

Hon’ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for statues of former MLAs, former Union Minister

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open a memorial hall for thiyagis - 14.02.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin laid the foundation stones through video conferencing for the installation of halls with statues of the former Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Member V.K.Palanisami Gounder, former Union Minister C.Subramaniam, former MLA and industrialist Pollachi N.Mahalingam, and freedom fighter Malaiyandi Vengidupathi Ethalappa Nayakar, who was the chieftain of Dhali, all at a cost of Rs. 6.90 crore, and declared open a memorial hall for thiyagis at Perungamanallur in Madurai District, at a total cost of Rs.1.47 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Development and Information Department, at the Secretariat on 14.02.2023.

In order to honour the stalwarts of Tamil Nadu and scholars who worked for the growth of the Tamil language and

brought fame to Tamil Nadu, poets and musical geniuses who kindled patriotic fervour and social justice in the minds of people, and martyrs who are shining examples of sacrifice in the history of Tamil Nadu, the Government erected their statues, constructing Memorials, Arangams, Monuments and Memorial Pillars for them. These memorial structures are being maintained properly.

As a part of this policy, in the demand for grants for the Information and Public Relations Department for the financial year 2021-2022, it was announced that the statues of the former Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly members V.K.Palanisami Gounder, former Union Minister C.Subramaniam and former MLA and industrialist Pollachi N. Mahalingam would be installed at the Office of the Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department in Pollachi. Similarly, it was announced that a Manimandapam would be constructed with a statue at Tiruppur in memory of the freedom fighter and chieftain, Dhali Malaiyandi Vengidupathi Ethalappar, who hanged the leader of the British delegation Andrew Kadish, to avenge the treacherous hanging of Veerapandiya Kattabomman.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stones for erecting the statues with mandapams for former MLA, V.K.Palanisami Gounder, former Union Minister C.Subramaniam and industrialist and former MLA, Pollachi Mahalingam at the office complex of the Chief Engineer, Water Resources Department, Pollachi, at a cost of Rs. 4.30 crore and for installing the statue of freedom fighter and Chieftain, Thali Malaiyandi Vengidupathi Ethalappar, in the Municipal Office Building Complex in Udumalpet Municipality in Tiruppur District, at a cost of Rs. 10 lakh and a Manimandapam for him at Majaratirumurthi Nagar in the Dhali-2 Village in Udumalpet Taluk, at a cost of Rs. 2.50 crore.

To honour the memory of 16 freedom fighters, belonging to Piramalaikallar community, who were shot dead by the colonial Government for protesting against the autocratic law of the British Government in 1920 and in commemoration of the centenary of the event, a Manimandapam was constructed at Perungamanallur Village in Usilampatti Taluk in Madurai District, at a cost of Rs.1.47 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the manimandapam.

'Every step to ensure wellbeing of women'

International Womens' Day greetings of the Honble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin - 07.03.2023

With the lines of Poet Bharathidasan proclaiming gender equality – 'Women who know no 'fear and shyness' are the eyes of Tamil Nadu' -- I extend my warm greetings to women on the occasion of International Women's Day.

Immediately, after taking charge of this Dravidian Model Government, the first file I signed was for the free travel of women in Corporation buses, thereby paving the way for the economic independence of women.

In the State's first budget, we increased the maternity leave of women from 9 months to 12 months with pay. This concession has not been provided even in the developed countries. The reservation for women in Government vacancies has been increased to 40 per cent to make them on a par with men in all Government offices. In continuation of this, the Government has launched 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme through which the Government is giving a stipend of Rs. 1,000 per month for college-going girls, under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Scheme to ensure their higher studies.

Similarly, on International Women's Day last year, I announced that the houses allotted under the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Corporation would be in the name of women head of the family. We honoured one of our poll promises by waiving the co-operative and jewel loans of self-help groups. Fifty per cent reservation is implemented for women in the Urban Employment Scheme. We have also made an announcement that preference would be given for women in the SIPCOT Industrial Estates.

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam allotted more than 50 per cent of the wards in 11 Corporations, including Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai, in the local body elections, making it possible for women to become Mayors of various corporations. In other local bodies, more than 50 per cent of women have become local body chairwomen, vice-chairwomen and councillors. This is a record.

The new policy for women will be released by the Government soon to achieve the lofty ideal of curbing violence and crimes against women, providing gender equality and ensuring their protection. In a similar manner, I am happy to announce on this International Women's Day that 50 days of additional work for women head of the family in the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme and training

schemes for women for competitive examinations, are two of the other schemes which the Government has planned to implement in future.

To top it all, we have announced Rs. 1,000 per month to women in the recent budget.

We have proved in the last 2 years that women's rights are not a matter of mere words but a reality through various revolutionary schemes being implemented by the Dravidian Model Government. We are functioning in a manner that Thanthai Periyar, Arignar Anna and the protector of women, Dr. Kalaignar, would be proud of.

Bharathidasan asserted that as long as women remained slaves, the country would also be in shackles. As we realize this truth, we will eradicate women's slavery, we will safeguard women's rights and ensure inclusive growth.

Global Information System Centre at a cost of Rs. 17.80 crore

- Work is in progress as part of the Tamil Nadu Urban Flagship Investment Programme (TNUFIP) with financial assistance from the Asian Development Bank, to bring all the details of the water supply and sewerage infrastructure of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (CMWSSB), under the Global Information System.
- As part of this programme, to manage the progress of works with regard to all the infrastructure of CMWSSB, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has issued a Government Order directing the allocation of Rs.17.80 crore under the administrative and expenditure funds of AMRUT 2.0 scheme, for the construction of a dedicated centre at the Board's head office at Chintadripet, Chennai.
- The cost of the project includes hardware and software, a server for geographical data input, geospatial software and server, purchase of survey instruments, hiring qualified GIS team and infrastructure cost of setting up the control room with hi-tech control facilities. CMWSSB will be able to digitally store all of its infrastructure data with high precision through this method. Additionally, the generated data will be stored on a server located in the dedicated GIS centre. The planning of projects, schemes, public services and facilities can be done on a daily basis using the technology mentioned above and the information that has been preserved. The project will reduce the Board's expenses while increasing revenue.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates second phase of ‘Pudhumai Penn’ scheme

Speech delivered by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** after launching the second phase of the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme at the Hindu College, Pattabiram in Tiruvallur District on 08.02.2023.

I extend my warm welcome to all of you.

Before commencing my speech, I would like to share three important messages with you, which have registered in my heart.

The first one was the distribution of appointment orders yesterday to police personnel, on behalf of the Home Department, which is under my control. At the function, I raised a question to the DGP, who was sitting by my side. Today we are distributing the appointment orders. I asked how many people the order is being given, to which he said that the order is being given to 17 Deputy Commissioners of Police. Of the 17 appointees, he said 13 are women DCPs. These 13 women DCPs received the appointment orders from me smartly. This is the first piece of happy news.

When I was coming to this function today in the car along with the Hon’ble Minister for Higher Education Dr.Ponmudy, he gave me a piece of information. Due to the introduction of the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme in the State, the number of women students enrolled in higher education in the current academic year was 27 per cent more compared to the last

academic year. This is the second piece of happy news.

The third happy news was shared by Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Nasar, when we were coming to the function in the car. The Minister said that I had come to this college 33 years ago, to participate in the College Annual Day function, when I was a Member of the Legislative Assembly.

Bearing these three happy developments in my mind, I am elated to inaugurate the second phase of the 'Puthumai Penn' Scheme. I feel really proud to come to this Dharmamurthi Rao Bahadur Calavala Cunnan Chetty Hindu College, Pattabiram. Calavala Cunnan never failed to inculcate the dictum that all religions are true. Poet Bharathi himself said if all children were taught like the students of Cunnan Kalasalai, the nation would attain excellence again.

Since, he spent a major portion of his income from the business for social service, he was called Dharmamurthi.

There was a time when education had been made unattainable by some people. Even during such times, he established schools in many places with the objective that everybody should get educated. He established schools in Chintadripet, Sowcarpet, Parrys Corner and Pattabiram.

This college was started in 1969 with Government assistance. It was inaugurated at a time when the DMK Government had come to power for the first time in the State.

It was the single signature of the then Chief Minister Dr.Kalaignar, that resulted in creation of lakhs of students in the last 50 years. When we recollect this, we feel extremely proud.

Even 150 years ago Dharmamurthi Cunnan gave importance to women's education and it is really fitting that the second phase of the 'Pudhumai Penn' Scheme was inaugurated from here.

If a nation is to progress with self-sufficiency, then it is important that people of the nation, especially the women, should be literate.

According to Ayyan Thiruvalluvar, learning is the indestructible wealth. Puratchi Kavignar Bharathidasan said that women without education were like barren land.

You should not forget that the Dravidian Movement was started with the motive that all people should be educated. In this land, divided on the basis of religion, race, caste and gender, everyone is equal and all should be given equal importance and opportunity. The Dravidian Movement was started for this purpose.

The history of the Dravidian Movement is not the history of any separate movement or any individual. It is the history of a race which was suppressed for over 2000 years and has come to the present position with self-respect. That is Tamil Nadu's history and our history also.

That is why we oppose oppression in any form. We speak of equality. This awareness is required more now. That is the reason that we should educate ourselves. We got the present rights only after prolonged struggle. It was a result of education.

Education is common to all. This has been stressed right from the Justice Party period.

The Social Justice ideology was created from the concept of equal education to all. The Dravidian movement created many schemes to take education to all people, especially to women, who should be given more importance. For that many schemes were formulated.

To cite a few examples, Women got voting rights in 1921 for the first time in the history of India. Women got equal rights to property during Kalaignar's rule in 1989. Law, making for 30 per cent reservation for women in Government jobs. If you see the local bodies today, you can find that 50 per cent of the members are women. Earlier, only 33 per cent reservation was given to women, which has been gradually increased to 50 per cent now.

We have done many things for women's rights and also fought for their rights.

Not only that. The self-help group scheme was started with the sole aim of making women to stand on their own feet and not depend on others. The self-help group scheme

is an excellent scheme. It was started during the rule of Dr.Kalaignar. It was started in Dharmapuri District first in 1989-1990 when we were in power. After that, when I was the Minister for Local Administration, I visited various districts in Tamil Nadu to create thousands of self-help groups.

Similarly even now, when we came to power, we gave importance to women. Do you know what my first signature was for ? It was for providing free bus fare facility to women. If you take the number of beneficiaries, it is about 180 crore women passengers till date.

In the same manner, this 'Pudumai Penn' is an excellent Scheme, started in the name of Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar, who was a lioness of the Dravidian Movement. If you ask me why you named the scheme after Ramamirtham Ammaiyar, it was because she raised her voice for suppressed and oppressed women. She fought for the women who were not allowed to study. Your forefathers might have told you about the superstitious beliefs that prevailed during those periods. You might also be aware of them. Due to those superstitious beliefs, women were suppressed and it was Ramamirtham Ammaiyar who opened the doors of education for them. She launched a revolution along with Thanthai Periyar some 100 years ago. In 1938, for the protection of Tamil, a rally was conducted from Tiruchi to Chennai. It was Ramamirtham Ammaiyar who participated in the rally. That is the reason why Perarignar Anna selected Ramamirtham Ammaiyar as the first awardee and glorified her services when awards were presented to Dravidian heroes. The 'Pudhumai Penn' scheme has been named after that faMoUs woman.

I would like to share one more piece of information with you about Ramamirtham Ammaiyar. When she was born her family was in extreme poverty. Her mother struggled a lot to raise her. As she was not able to raise her daughter, Ramamirtham's mother sold her for just Rs. 10. Ramamirtham was sold

for just Rs. 10. Today we are inaugurating the women development scheme, which sanctions Rs. 1,000 per month for girl students after Ramamirtham, who was sold for just Rs. 10.

This scheme was launched last year itself. You all know who inaugurated the scheme. It was the Delhi Chief Minister Thiru. Arvind Kejriwal. Last year on January 26, the Republic Day parade was held in New Delhi. In that R-Day Parade, a decorated vehicle of Tamil Nadu also participated. In that vehicle, statues of 7 women who brought fame to Tamil Nadu, found their place. One among them is Ramamirtham. It is in her name that this scheme was inaugurated today.

The main aim of the scheme is to prevent drop-out of girl students after completing their school education. This scheme was created in the name of Ramamirtham Ammaiyar. Under the Scheme, girl students who study in Government schools from 6th standard to 12th standard continuously are eligible. They should not be unable to continue their education due to financial want. For such girl students, we have launched a Scheme wherein Rs. 1,000 will be deposited directly into their bank accounts. Girl students are eligible for this scheme even if they get educational assistance under other schemes.

In the first phase, the scheme was inaugurated at the Bharathi College for Women in North Chennai. So far, one lakh 16,000 girl students have benefited in the State. For this the Government has sanctioned Rs. 69.44 crore in the last 5 months. About 12,000 girl students, who would otherwise have discontinued their studies due to poor economic conditions, are now pursuing their higher studies. This is the greatest victory for this scheme.

Now, we are launching the second phase of this Scheme. I have come to the Hindu College, Pattabiram now to inaugurate it. Girl students who are likely to discontinue their studies after completing their schooling are now entering college. Through this scheme, there will be an increase in the growth of education in Tamil Nadu. The number of literates will increase. The number of intelligent people will increase and the number of talented people will rise. There will be gender equality and child marriage will come down. Women will be empowered and they will stand on their own feet. One can go on about the benefits that will accrue. You should understand that this is the Dravidian Model of Government.

In the last 5 years, 10,146 students, who could not continue their higher education, have started doing so, thanks to the scheme. This is the victory of this scheme, the response to it. Totally 1,56,016 persons have benefited under the scheme. Of them, students belonging to the Backward Class Communities are about 48,660 persons, Most Backward Class Communities are about 50,550 persons, Scheduled Castes are about

44,880 persons and Tribal Castes are about 1,900 persons.

We are planning to offer many more types of assistance to them. My request to you is this: Study well, study, study. Take up higher education. Do research in any one of the subjects. For a woman, economic independence is as important as married life. Utilize the best available opportunity. During your studies, create skill based thoughts. Unfortunately, women are confined to their homes after marriage.

Nobody can destroy the academic knowledge, artistic ability and the individual capacity of any person. I request you to utilize your talents, throughout your life and to create a separate identity for yourself.

Don't get distracted during your study period. Make the best use of your college days for your studies and career development. I would like to tell you this not only as the Chief Minister of the State, but also as your brother and as one among you and more than that as your father. We have conceived of this scheme and are implementing it to nurture you.

You must make the best use of the scheme by considering this Government as your brother. We had mentioned very clearly in our poll manifesto the schemes that would be implemented and the assurances that would be honoured. You all know how far those assurances and schemes are being implemented. Due to certain situations, one or two things are yet to be fulfilled. Whatever be the financial constraint, we will tide over them and honour our assurances. I am very proud to say that we have fulfilled nearly 85 per cent of our promises. I don't deny that still there are 10 to 15 per cent of assurances that are yet to be honoured. I would like to tell you with determination that in the coming period those assurances would also be honoured fully. That is the Dravidian Model Government. We have fulfilled not only our assurances but things which we have not mentioned in our poll manifesto One such scheme is the 'Pudumai Penn' Scheme.

We had not mentioned about the 'Pudumai Penn' Scheme. But we are implementing it today. In this way, not only schemes that are mentioned in our poll manifesto, but also schemes that are not mentioned in it are being implemented. This is the Dravidian Model Government. I affectionately appeal to you to realize this and give a helping hand to this Government and prosper in life by making use of this scheme. I greet the girl students who are being benefited by the scheme and take leave of you.

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces new schemes for welfare of school teachers

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin,** through video conferencing and announcement of a number of schemes for teachers - 01.03.2023.

My greetings to all of you.

Education is a right which we got after a bitter battle. Education is very important for a proper knowledge about the world and for rational thinking. The education that a person has never lets him down. That is the reason for my saying very often in my speeches that education is a wealth that cannot be stolen.

Since the inception of the Justice Party, we have been toiling to ensure that children come to school and get educated. The Dravidian Model Government in the State in the last 2 years has been implementing various schemes for students and teachers.

Naan Mudhalvan Scheme

The pre-eminent scheme to this end is the

‘Naan Mudhalvan’ Scheme. I am not saying that I am Mudhalvan. People of Tamil Nadu made me the Chief Minister. The purpose of the scheme is to make all male and female students of the State attain this front-ranking status.

To get higher education and to get better employment opportunities, guidance classes are being conducted in all schools. Arrangements have been made for guidance books, classes and guidance teachers in every school. The School Education Department has taken various steps to ensure that all students who completed 12th class joined higher education in the 2021-2022 academic year. Having understood that a significant number of students had not pursued higher education, the drop out students were invited to the schools and measures were taken to make them take up higher education. Similar steps will be taken in the current academic year also.

Pudhumai Penn Scheme

The DMK Government is firm that all students who complete 12th Standard should pursue higher education. For the girl students to pursue higher education, the Government has introduced the ‘Pudhumai Penn’ Scheme. The successful girl students of Government Schools, who continue their higher education, are given a stipend of Rs. 1,000 per month. According to the beneficiaries and their parents, it is a revolutionary scheme. Similarly 7.5 per cent reservation is provided to Government Higher Secondary School Students in professional courses. If students get interested in education at an early age itself, they will reach greater heights.

Chief Minister’s Breakfast scheme

If a student is to have interest in studies, he must not suffer from hunger. If a student comes to the school with an empty stomach, he cannot concentrate on his studies. That is the reason, for the first time in the country, the Chief Minister’s Breakfast Scheme for school students was introduced. Wards of poor families and kids of working women are benefited by the scheme, with the result the attendance of students in the schools has increased. Now the scheme is to be extended to all primary schools in the State. It is the duty of the Government to ensure the attendance of students in schools and to prevent their drop out. That is the reason that when there was a gap in education during the Corona period, the Government introduced ‘Illam Thedi Kalvi Thittam.’ The scheme, with 2 lakh selfless workers and 36 lakh students has been functioning successfully. To reduce the gap in education between first and third standards, the ‘Ennum Ezhuthum’ scheme has been introduced to enable students to learn their lessons cheerfully.

Vanavil Mandram

To improve scientific temper and to develop reasoning ability among students, Rainbow Associations have been started in schools. They help students learn day-to-day science and mathematics with enthusiasm, both inside and

outside school. Apart from improving school-based knowledge and other skills, cultural shows are organized in schools to bring out the individual talent of students. These cultural shows are celebrated like village festivals. Over 25 lakh students have participated in the district and state-level cultural shows and exhibited their talents. Victorious students will be taken for international tours. Screening of films is undertaken in Government schools to enable students to learn about the world. The screening of films in various languages helps students gain rich experience about the cultures of other States and countries and their topography. The screening of films helps students learn about other countries.

Writers, educationists and film directors who visit schools as special guests are expressing their opinions in public forums. The views of popular people reach people in all strata of society.

Thean Chittu Magazine

Our aim is that the education and creative abilities of students should improve. The Tamil Nadu School Education Department, for the first time in its history, has started a bio-monthly journal known as 'Then Chittu' for Government school students. This magazine is liked by students and they participate enthusiastically in quiz programmes organized through the Internet. Last year, students who won in the competition were taken to Dubai. This victory march will continue every year.

Namma School Foundation

In the current year budget, more funds have been allotted for school education. New infrastructure works worth Rs. 2,000 crore are going on. For the development of Government schools, 'Namma School Foundation Scheme' has been started. This scheme helps former students, institutions, and the general public to contribute to their schools.

All these kinds of infrastructure and education-based new schemes have been conceived to help students to join higher education. It is only the teachers, who can prevent school dropouts and bring students back to schools. They can identify students who are unable to continue their studies after successfully completing 12th Std. Teachers alone can give momentum to the Government schemes. In the absence of the active participation of teachers, none of the above Government schemes will be successful. After parents, it is teachers who are given respect by society. To enthuse teachers, to improve their reading and to increase their creativity, a monthly magazine 'Kanavu Asiriyar' is being brought out.

To honour teachers who are rendering such service tirelessly and to protect their welfare, I am happy to announce new schemes for teachers through video conferencing. Computer tablets will be provided to all middle school and graduate teachers to help them adapt themselves to the changing education system and teaching methods.

Teachers will be provided a full body check once in three years for proper maintenance of their health. Education allowance for wards of teachers, who are in higher education will be increased to Rs.50,000. Teachers who take the Government schemes successfully to students will be taken for an educational tour abroad. This scheme will be implemented at a cost of Rs.225 crore. I am happy to share this information with you through the radio. I welcome the students to reach higher levels in higher education by improving their skills as dedication and support of teachers is always there for students.

I am confident that the students and teachers will make Mahakavi Bharathiyar's verse that Tamil Nadu is the best in education, a reality. My affectionate greetings to Hon'ble Minister for School Education and Hon'ble Minister for Sports Development and Youth Welfare on this occasion.

Then...

"All the villages should be developed; All the needs of the villagers must be fulfilled; With the aim of providing all the necessary amenities like road, water, hospital, school and college to the villages in need, the project called 'Anaithu Graama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam' (All Village Anna Renaissance Scheme) was launched by the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at Arakkonam on 21.01.2007.

Now...

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, at the Secretariat on 23.05.2022, introduced the 'Kalaignarin All Village Integrated Agriculture Development Programme', a 10-year long-term development scheme of bringing an additional 11.75 lakh hectares under cultivation and converting 20 lakh hectares into double crop cultivation lands, to make the State attain the first 3 positions in food grain, coconut, cotton and groundnut production.

Hon'ble Chief Minister announces relief package for delta farmers affected by unseasonal rains

A low pressure area developed in the Bay of Bengal and in the central Indian Ocean on 29.01.2023. On 30.01.2023, it turned into a well marked low air pressure area and strengthened into a low pressure depression, resulting in heavy rains in the Delta Districts and in some other districts of Tamil Nadu. Due to these unseasonal rains, paddy crops and other crops which were ready for harvest were damaged.

Immediately after knowing about the damage to the crops due to unseasonal rains, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu directed the Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, the Food, Co-operation and Consumer Protection Minister and senior Government officers to visit the rain-affected areas, assess the damage caused to the standing paddy crops and also hear the grievances of the affected farmers.

> The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** announced a relief package to farmers in the delta districts and in other parts of the State, as they had lost their standing crops due to unseasonal rains this year - 06.02.2023.

Apart from that, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, of Tamil Nadu in a letter to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 05.02.2023, urged relaxation of paddy procurement norms, including raising the stipulation of moisture content up to 22 per cent while procuring paddy at the Direct Paddy Procurement centres, taking into consideration the interest of farmers.

The Hon'ble Ministers and high Government officials visited the areas in Thanjavur, Tiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Mayiladuthurai Districts

heavily affected by rains, on 05.02.2023, met the farmers, representatives of farmers' associations and enquired about the damage to the standing paddy crops and the follow-up measures to be taken by the Government.

Meanwhile, the Hon'ble Ministers, who visited the affected Districts met the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the Secretariat on 06.02.2023, explained the situation to him and also presented a report in this connection.

After acquainting himself with the views of the Ministers and their report, the Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the following relief package to the affected farmers, taking into consideration the interest of the affected farmers.

The Revenue and Agriculture Departments will jointly undertake a survey to assess the extent of crop damage suffered by farmers. Those, who suffered a harvest loss of 33 per cent or more, as per the rules of the Disaster Management, will be given a compensation of Rs. 20,000 per hectare.

A compensation of Rs.3,000 per hectare will be given to farmers who lost their young pulse crops raised in the paddy fallows. Pulse growers who broadcast the urad pulse seeds in the fallow land would be given 8 kg of pulse seeds per acre at 50 per cent subsidy.

To undertake paddy harvest in the rain-affected delta districts immediately, harvesting machines will be given on rent at 50 per cent subsidy by the Agriculture Engineering Department. Steps will be taken to conduct additional paddy harvest tests, under the Crop Insurance Scheme, even if such tests had already been completed in the affected villages.

164th birth anniversary of Sindhanai Sirpi M. Singaravelar

News in Picture

In connection with the 164th birth anniversary of Sindhanai Sirpi M. Singaravelar, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation Tmt. R.Priya, Member of Parliament Thiru. Kalanidhi Veerasamy, Director of Information and Public Relations Thiru. D. Mohan I.A.S., Chennai District Collector Tmt. S. Amirtha Jothi I.A.S., paid floral tribute to a portrait of 'Sindhanai Sirpi' M. Singaravelar, placed near his statue, in the campus of the Chennai District Collectorate on 18.02.2023. Other Government higher officials were present.

Educational loans for higher education of students living in TNUHDB tenements

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** distributed education assistance - 07.02.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin distributed Rs. 39.20 lakh to 120 students, residing in the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board as educational assistance, on behalf of the HDFC Bank CSR Fund. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over the assistance to 12 students, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 07.02.2023.

The Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board has been constructing houses for those living on river banks, families below the poverty line and for the downtrodden and homeless. Apart from settling them in houses constructed for them, the Board also improves their livelihood and standard of living. The Board also provides all infrastructure facilities, such as children welfare centres, primary health centres, fair price shops, schools, libraries, Aavin milk booths and community centres with the help of other Government departments. In addition, for the occupants of the Board's tenements, skill improvement training, employment opportunity camps, awareness programmes and other social development activities are undertaken.

To encourage students living in the tenements, educational assistance is provided to those pursuing higher education. Last year, Rs. 42.30 lakh was given to 141 students on behalf of the HDFC Bank. This year also educational assistance is being provided under the HDFC's Corporate Social Responsibility Fund for students who are pursuing

higher education such as medicine, engineering, and undergraduate and post-graduate studies.

The assistance is given to the student of the Board's tenements in Govindasami Nagar, Kannagi Nagar, Perumbakkam, Navalur, M.S.Nagar, K.P.Park, Nochi Nagar, All-India Road Radio Scheme area, Venkatapuram Scheme area, Nochikuppam, Athipattu Scheme areas, Nalla Thanneer Odaikuppam, Baruva nagar Scheme area, Thazhankuppam, T.T.Block, N.V.N.Nagar, Pushpa Nagar, Rani Anna Nagar Scheme areas. Kasimedu Kuppam, Singaravelan Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, Periya Koodal Nagar, Mangalapuram, Kamarajapuram, Pachaikal Veerasami Street, Vembuli Amman Kovil Street, Lock Nagar, Chetpet Appasami Street, Tiruvallikeni, Gothamedu, Dhobikhana and Kothavalchavadi. Totally, 120 students benefited to the tune of Rs. 39.20 lakh. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu as a token, handed over the assistance to 12 students.

April 17 : Birth anniversary of Veeran Dheeran Chinnamalai

Dauntless warrior who fought for freedom

Dheeran Chinnamalai is one among those great men who were born in the Tamil land of bravery and fought and sacrificed their lives for the freedom of the country.

Knowledgeable about the tactics of warfare, he taught his soldiers military strategies that were based on courage and tact, and took part in the Indian freedom struggle with the objective of rooting out the East India Company from India.

As Dheeran Chinnamalai defeated many of the British in warfare and caused their humiliation, the British resorted to trickery and arrested Dheeran Chinnamalai and his brothers with the help of his traitorous cook.

They were taken to the Sankagiri fort and imprisoned there. They were pressured into accepting Company raj but did not agree. On July 31, 1805, the British hanged Dheeran Chinnamalai and his brothers at the peak of Chinnamalai fort.

Hon'ble Chief Minister tells officials that they must implement iconic projects fully and swiftly

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** exhorted department secretaries regarding iconic projects of the Government, at a review meeting - 09.02.2023.

The implementation of the Tamil Nadu Government's iconic projects was reviewed in a meeting headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M.K.Stalin at the tenth floor of Namakkal Kavignar Maligai, at the Secretariat on 09.02.2023.

The most important projects, which are under implementation in the State, are grouped sector-wise and classified as iconic projects. The status of these projects was reviewed at the meeting. In the first review meeting, 51 projects and 19 future projects belonging to the departments of Housing and Urban Development, Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Tourism, Culture, HR and CE, School Education, Environment, Climate Change and Forests, Dairy Development and Fisheries, Public Department and Rehabilitation, Higher Education, Labour Welfare and Skill Development, Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment were taken up for review and their current status was discussed. The Secretaries of the Departments concerned explained the status of the projects and their progress through audio and visual presentation.

During the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the progress of the projects and directed the Secretaries to ensure

that there is no delay in completing them fully and quickly. In addition, he told them that there should be as much interest in execution as in their announcement. The Hon'ble Chief Minister advised them that any delay in project completion would lead to cost escalation and also hardships to the beneficiaries and in this case, the public. The Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the Secretaries and Department heads that they should take this into consideration, formulate the schemes and contract details and finalize them without any delay. The projects which have not been started so far should be started immediately and completed at the earliest.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister told the officials that co-ordination of all departments was necessary for implementation of the Government projects and they should keep in mind that all projects are Government projects and function efficiently.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister said that he would conduct similar reviews once in 2 months and asked the Chief Secretary to conduct the review meeting once in a month about the progress of the projects.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu

Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Chief Secretary to Government, Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries and Departmental Secretaries, to each of you, I extend my greetings.

In the past twenty months, we have created and put into action a lot of great schemes. First and foremost, I would want to thank all the dignitaries who have been painstakingly overseeing and carrying out these schemes day by day, from conception to implementation.

The Government does not consist only of the Chief Minister; Ministers, higher officials and staff go to make the Government. Only when these three parts collaborate effectively can there be good governance. It is a matter of joy that we are providing such an administration. I want to openly tell you that this period has given me much fulfillment. This sort of governance has to be reinforced further. We have scheduled this meeting for today with that aim.

As far as Tamil Nadu was concerned, it largely went through stagnation for a period of ten years. That much you are well aware of. We began with two objectives; getting rid of the slack and giving momentum to growth. To that end, we are making progress. You can get a good indication by looking at all the new initiatives that have been announced in the last 20 months.

It takes a lot of work to announce all of these, and the effectiveness of the effort depends entirely on how well the announcements are carried out.

Through a single initiative called free bus for women, this administration is winning the admiration of thousands of women every day. Our provision of breakfast to students is earning us the blessings of thousands of families. Over a crore people have benefited from the Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme. Farmers who received free power connections are praising us.

Girl students who receive Rs.1,000 each month are lauding us. These are all the joys that are immediately in front of us. Similarly, if the recipients of all the programmes are happy, this

Government will become one praised by the eight crore people of the State. That is in your hands.

How are the projects that were announced being implemented? If there is some tardiness or hitch, what is the reason for that? What must we do to implement a scheme in its entirety? I urge the department secretaries to enquire about such things and take action.

A scheme might encounter a little hiccup. You are aware of the difficulties. Various departments, including the Finance Department, may have to issue an order. It is your responsibility to call a joint officer-level meeting, hold it, and ensure that the scheme is implemented right away. Review all the announced programmes for your department, and look at how well they are being implemented.

We declared that there will be a library in Madurai in the name of Thalaivar Kalaignar. The library has risen steadily; it is about to be opened. We previously stated that Guindy would see the rise of a very large hospital; and it is also being constructed quickly.

Bring every announcement and scheme to your attention in this manner so that you can assess the situation. Twenty months have gone by.

Implementing initiatives and allocating funds may run into difficulties. But it should be possible to operationalize all schemes by 2023. You must get started on the schemes right away.

You are all aware that if you keep paying attention to any announcement, it will prove successful. So, let us work together in this way. I conclude my introductory remarks at this level.

In continuation, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin conducted a second review meeting on the iconic projects in Tamil Nadu, held at the tenth floor of the Namakkal Kavignar Maaligai, at the Secretariat on 13.02.2023.

In the second review meeting, 68 existing projects and 6 future projects of the departments 14 of Energy, Highways and Minor Ports, Transport, Special Initiatives, Public Works, Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce, Handloom, Handicrafts, Textiles and Khadi, Tamil Development and Information, Co-operatives, Food and Consumer Protection, Home, Prohibition and Excise, Information Technology and Digital Services, Water Resources and Health and Family Welfare department were taken up for review and their current status was discussed.

In this meeting, the Secretaries of the Departments concerned explained about the current status and progress of various projects being implemented by their departments.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu at the end of the meeting:

Dear Chief Secretary and other higher Government officials,

We have now completed the second review meeting on Iconic schemes.

The Secretaries of the Departments concerned explained the status of the projects and their progress. You have also given specific assurances regarding the completion date of the works. I am confident that you will definitely fulfill all of them.

There are two reasons why these projects are being looked at, at the Chief Minister's level.

First, these are not just Government priority schemes; These are projects that will further enhance the pride of Tamil Nadu. We are holding this review meeting to strictly monitor them so that any delay in their implementation is averted.

Secondly, as Secretaries of Major Departments, you all must be aware of the government's iconic schemes. For the implementation of a project, another department should give all the necessary permissions, avoid unnecessary questions and pave the way to move forward. It requires your full co-ordinated contribution. That is what this meeting is for.

Government administration is a chariot we all pull together; If it is done quickly, administration will be effective. Chariots are not made to remain standing in a place – schemes are not drawn to remain on paper.

Therefore, I request you doers whose aim is 'action - action - action'. You should regularly review the work of subordinate officers.

Continuous inspections will create seamless administration.

Even ordinary welfare schemes can be fully beneficial when implemented within a specified period of time.

There are times when half-hearted implementation of projects with great benefits produces little impact.

Just one example of this – farmers markets (Uzhavar Sandhaigal) that have been neglected in the past. It is all in the hands of administration – that is, in your hands.

That is why Government projects are generally called the wards of officials. If the authorities look after them, they will grow – if the authorities fail to look after them, they will grow emaciated. But it is a cause for happiness that good progress is seen in many departments and projects in our state.

Such activities will signify a golden epoch for the people. We are planning and working to create the foundation for such a golden period.

During today's inspection, I noticed that various special projects are being implemented swiftly. I express my appreciation to the departmental secretaries concerned.

At the same time, I noticed some slackness with regard to some projects. It is my duty and responsibility to point them out.

I personally don't want to specify what projects they are. You know them very well.

I request the departmental secretaries concerned to complete them within the time-frame fixed for their implementation.

We have constituted a non-departmental committee of experts to formulate the plans and give directions for implementation. Take their advice – and implement their suggestions. Spend the funds provided for the project according to the progress of the work and accelerate the work.

During the next review meeting, I am sure to see significant progress in the work related to the projects discussed in today's review meeting.

I will have the opportunity to meet you all at a similar review meeting, 2 months later and I would like to say my thanks to all of you, who gave assurance and attended the meeting.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

MoU with Ola for manufacture of Electric Vehicles, 20 GW batteries

Hon’ble Chief Minister lays foundation stone for mini Tidel Park in Vellore District

Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** laid the foundation stone for mini Tidel Park in Vellore through video conferencing, at the Secretariat, Chennai on 18.02.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin on 18.02.2023, at the Secretariat, on behalf of the Industries, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department, laid the foundation stone for a building that is to come up at a cost of Rs. 30 crore for a mini Tidel Park on 4.98 acres in Vellore district, and inaugurated Inox AR Products’s Rs. 150 crore-production unit for Super Special Liquid Oxygen at SIPCOT- Hosur Industrial Park, and the Rs.110 Crore-Research and Development Wing of GX Group of Companies at Chennai.

Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Government of Tamil Nadu and Ola Electric Mobility Private Limited was signed for

Rs.7,614 crore-unit with potential for 3,111 jobs, for manufacture of four-wheeler electric vehicles and 20 GW batteries.

Tamil Nadu is one of the leading states in India in economic growth and industrial development. In order to meet the goal set by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of a one trillion US dollar economy by 2030-2031, the Government is making every effort to attract investments and to create employment opportunities, especially for youth and women.

Mini Tidel Park at Vellore District

In keeping with the announcement in the budget for 2021-2022, that Tidel Parks would be built in the state's tier-2 and tier-3 cities, as a first step in this direction, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone on June 24, 2022, for mini Tidel Parks in the districts of Villupuram and Tiruppur.

In addition, the Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for a 60,000 sq. ft. plinth area building with four floors apart from ground floor, to be built at a cost of Rs. 30 crore for a Mini Tidel Park on 4.98 acres, in Abdullapuram, Melmonavur, Vellore District.

Through this, educated youth in Vellore district and its neighbouring areas will have the chance to find suitable jobs in the field of information technology and rise in economic status, even as they remain in their hometowns.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with OLA COMPANY

Ola Electric Mobility Private Limited, through its subsidiary companies Ola Cell Technologies (OCT) Private Limited and Ola Electric Technologies (OET) Private Limited, has proposed to establish factories for making batteries and electric cars. The investment in this project is Rs. 7,614 crore.

This project will see investments from Ola Cell Technologies (OCT) Private Limited of Rs. 5,114 crore and Ola Electric Technologies (OET) Private Limited of Rs. 2,500 crore, resulting in the creation of 3,111 new jobs. This project is to be located in SIPCOT's Bargur Industrial Complex at Pochampalli in Krishnagiri District. These initiatives aim to produce 1.40 lakh electric four-wheelers and 20 GW batteries.

In the presence of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the MoU between the Government of Tamil Nadu and Ola Electric Mobility Private Limited was signed on 18.02.2023.

INOX Air Products

Inox Air Products Company is producing gases for the medical and industrial sectors from its 43 operating locations all over the country. This Company was begun in 1986 at Manali, Chennai for air separation. Then it was expanded to Salem, Tirunelveli and Sriperumbudur. This establishment has installed Liquid oxygen tanks at various Government and private hospitals throughout Tamil Nadu with a capacity of 4.5 lakh litres.

During the Corona period, this Company functioned uninterruptedly and ensured the supply of liquid oxygen to all the hospitals in Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu opened its new factory at SIPCOT, Hosur Industrial Complex, Krishnagiri District for producing 200 TPD Super Special Liquid Oxygen, paving the way for an investment of Rs.150 crore and providing employment to 105 persons.

This concern has received all the approvals including the land allocation (5 acres) etc., through the Single Window Clearance system of the Tamil Nadu Government's 'GUIDANCE' agency.

Hon'ble Chief Minister releases books on abolition of bonded labour, child labour

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin** released two books titled, 'Abolition of Bonded Labour System - Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives' and 'Abolition of Child Labour System – Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives' on 23.02.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin, on 23.02.2023, released at the Secretariat, on behalf of the Labour Welfare and Skill Development Department, two books titled, 'Abolition of Bonded Labour System - Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives' and 'Abolition of Child Labour System – Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives'.

The two biggest barriers to societal progress and future of the nation are the 'Bonded Labour System' and 'Child Labour System'. The Government of Tamil Nadu is determined to eliminate the Bonded Labour System by 2030 and the Child Labour System by 2025.

The Government of Tamil Nadu is making significant efforts, including identifying bonded labour and child labour, releasing them from their bonds, rehabilitating them and taking prompt action in response to complaints about bonded labour and child labour.

The book 'Abolition of Bonded Labour System - Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives' released by the Hon'ble Chief Minister covers the factors that encourage Bonded Labour and the law in this regard, legal protection against Bonded Labour System, steps to enforce the law, measures to create awareness against the system, as well as Training and Workshops to eradicate it.

The book 'Abolition of Child Labour System – Tamil Nadu Government's Excellent Initiatives' covers the legal actions taken against the child labour system, awareness campaigns and workshops, benefits being given by the Government of Tamil Nadu in this connection and the activities of the high-level committee against child labour.

These books have been designed to function as excellent guide books to the various departments concerned and to create awareness among the public in the matter of the abolition of bonded labour and child labour.

Hon'ble Chief Minister exhorts District Collectors taking office to remove impediments to schemes

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** addressed the newly appointed District Collectors at the Secretariat - 04.02.2023.

At the outset, I extend my warm welcome to you all.

The Chief Secretary has already briefly explained to you how you should function as District Collectors.

Within a short period of time, our Government has earned a good name and nobody can dispute this. This is not due to the Chief Minister or the Chief Secretary or the individual officers alone. It cannot be denied that it is totally because of Government officials and staff like you.

Before coming to power, in our poll manifesto, we gave the list of things that we would implement if we came to power. We had also given assurances for each district. I request you to monitor how far these assurances have been fulfilled in each district and involve yourselves fully in implementing them.

Recently, I undertook field-level inspection of Ranipet, Vellore, Tirupattur and Tiruvannamalai districts. The development works in those Districts had been carried out to my satisfaction as well as to that of those who had heard about them. This should continue. The newly appointed Collectors, immediately after taking charge, should list out the works which have not been taken up? What is the status regarding each of the works? What are the works that have not yet taken off the ground? What are the hindrances in this regard? What are the court cases coming in the way? You should make a thorough study of those works, conduct joint review and take the necessary steps to complete them at the earliest. When we come for field review very soon in the districts that you are to take office, we are confident that you would be able to inform us that those works have been completed, that the hindrances have been removed.

As already told by the Chief Secretary, and as told by Mahatma Gandhi, one should 'Go to field. Perarignar Anna used to say 'Go to people'. In a similar way, you should execute the welfare schemes to the satisfaction of people, by directing the field level officers to complete the works as per schedule.

I want you to maintain the law and order situation in your district. You should not give any room for political considerations and do good to people. I humbly appeal to you that, that should be your prime motive.

Don't think that we will keep quiet after handing over the work to you. The Chief Secretary would continue to monitor the progress of the works. Similarly as Chief Minister, I will also review the works. We are going to submit the Annual Budget in March. In the Budget, we are going to announce new schemes and also the status of already announced schemes. You must take all these things into consideration and give a proper reply to the Government continuously.

I appeal to you to carry out your tasks efficiently and get a good name for the Government. With these words, I conclude my speech and wish you the best.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

April 29: Birth anniversary of Paavendar Bharathidasan

Paean to the worker

Oh beautiful gardens, you bloom so bright
But how many of my worker friends
Have spilled their blood into your roots
To make you so enchanting!

Oh fertile paddy fields, You yield so much
But how many working men
Have toiled and sweated
For your constant care!

Oh lotus–ponds, you are wondrous indeed
But how many of my slaving brethren
Must have lost their lives
When you were made!

Oh great high–ways, you criss–cross the world
But they never had pleasure
They never tasted rest at night
The men that made you.

Oh machines, you rumble and roar
But were I to trace your origin
Would it not reveal the skillful hand
Of the working class?

Oh world of wealth and pleasures
If we were to look beneath,
Would we not in the foundation find
The sinews and bones of the labouring class?

Elements of nature, answer me:
Who culled out from you
Materials sustaining life
But the strong–limbed labourers?

Oh earth, are you not the standing proof
of the tireless toil of the working class?
How is it then that the rich are callous
To the hunger of the labourers?

Should the lions give all their share
To the little rats and pine?
Should the tigers feed the foxes well
And in hunger go to sleep?

No more fear. No more kneeling down.
The workers will all rise
And will prove to the world
That their own strength will bring them life

– Reproduced from the book entitled: "Bharathi Dasan"

TN Police champions of all-India competition call upon Hon'ble Chief Minister with awards

The Tamil Nadu Police champions who set records in the 66th All India Police Duty Meet 2022–2023 held at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, showed their medals, certificates, and awards to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin and received his good wishes, at the Secretariat on 23.02.2023.

The 66th All India Police Duty Meet took place in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, from February 13 to February 17, 2023. 70 persons from Tamil Nadu Police participated in the competition's different categories include scientific aid to investigation skills, computer skills, anti sabotage check contest, dog squad skills, video filming skills, and professional photography skills.

It is important to note that the Tamil Nadu Police participants, who defeated Madhya Pradesh in their own State and took first place, received 8 Gold Medals, 1 Silver Medal, and 2 Bronze Medals, with a total tally of 11. The Forensic Scientific Investigation Wing, photography and video recording of crime scenes, and Bomb Detection check contest were the three categories in which they triumphed.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K.Stalin** greeted the Tamil Nadu Police Officials who set records - 23.02.2023

The Tamil Nadu Police champions participated in all competitions and received the highest marks, making them the Best Team of India. They also won the Charminar Championship Cup under the direction of the trainer and team manager, Madurai Corporation Deputy Commissioner of Police, Thiru. S. Arumugasamy, and the assistant trainer, Tamil Nadu Police Academy Deputy Superintendent Thiru. M. Babu.

Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development calls upon the Hon'ble Prime Minister broaches NEET issue

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, made a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Thiru. Narendra Modi, at his Lok Kalyan Marg residence in New Delhi, on 28.02.2023.

I came here to participate in the marriage function in the family of the Hon'ble Governor of Punjab, Thiru Banwarilal Purohit.

Earlier in the day, I met the Hon'ble Minister for Rural Development Thiru. Giriraj Singh, on 28.02.2023, along with the officials and placed the demands of Self-Help Groups in Tamil Nadu to the Hon'ble Minister. I hope the Hon'ble Minister will look into the demands of the SHGs.

I had asked for an appointment with the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The last time when the Hon'ble Prime Minister came to Chennai, he asked me to meet him when I visited New Delhi. In continuation of this, I met the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 28.02.2023 and expressed my condolences to him on his mother's demise. There is no politics in our meeting.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister enquired about the details of Sports Development in Tamil Nadu. I mentioned about the competitions held under the Chief Minister's Cup for sports in the State, at a cost of Rs. 25 crore. I also made a request to the Hon'ble Prime Minister that Tamil Nadu should be given the opportunity to host the next Khelo India Youth Games.

I also mentioned the NEET Issue. The Hon'ble Prime Minister also gave some explanations about NEET. I explained to him about Tamil Nadu people's attitude to the NEET issue. That is my duty. I informed him that the legal battle on the NEET examination in Tamil Nadu would continue.

Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity motivates officers of I& PR Department to take welfare schemes to people's knowledge

The Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity Thiru. M.P.Saminathan, chaired a review meeting of 6 Regional Joint Directors and the District Public Relation Officers of Chennai, Madurai, Coimbatore, Tiruchi, Tirunelveli and Thanjavur, at the seminar hall of the State Information Centre, Chennai on 28.02.2023.

> Speech of the Hon'ble Minister for Information and Publicity, **Thiru. M.P. Saminathan** at a review meeting on the works of District PRO's on 28.02.2023

At the meeting, the status of various announcements made by the Hon'ble Chief Minister and the Hon'ble Minister for Information, construction of various memorials, statues of freedom fighters, renovation works of various memorials, subscription target of Tamilarasu magazine in the districts, 'Achievements of One year of Incessant Work' (Oyaa Uzhaippin Oraandu Sadhanaigal), photo exhibition of various Government schemes, details about awareness programme of various cultural shows, rank list of District Public Relation Officers in various field-level works, handling of social media and other works were reviewed.

The Hon'ble Minister, in his presidential address, said that steps should be taken to complete all pending Government schemes in the districts. District officials should coordinate with the respective District Collectors in resolving the hitches in setting up statues and memorials and complete the works at the earliest. The Hon'ble Minister advised the district officials to review the new construction works and renovation of memorials in their respective districts with the District Collectors by making spot visits.

The Hon'ble Minister said that the reporters tour to the places of Government schemes is a very important work of the District PROs. These tours should be coordinated with the Public Relations camp of the District Collectors so that the reporters have first hand information about various Government schemes and know about the grievances of the public. The PR officials should take steps to complete the subscription target of Tamilarasu magazine in their districts. Subscription details of Tamilarasu magazine should be prominently displayed in the information board of the District PRO offices. The PROs should canvass for the magazine in schools, colleges, local body offices, libraries, Lions Clubs and achieve the subscription target. This will enable the Government schemes to reach the people and benefit the public.

Photographs of freedom fighters in various districts as well as those of language war heroes and Tamil scholars, along with short notes about them are displayed in all the District Collectorates. Similarly an album, containing the birth and death details, the agitations they participated in, details of their prison life, sacrifices and photos should be prepared and kept in District Collectorates, libraries and memorials to help the public and students know about them. Through this, the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and language war heroes would be known to posterity. The descendants of such great persons would also be happy to know that the sacrifices of their forefathers are being recognized by the Government.

For the public to know about the important schemes of the Government, they should display the advertisement boards where people gather in large numbers, in permitted places, without affecting the normal traffic. The slogan 'Thalai Nimirntha Tamil Nadu, Thanithuvamaana Ponnaadu' , the picture of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the benefits of Government schemes and the ways to get those benefits should find their place in the advertisement boards. He gave the advice that at a time when the Government is entering its third year of rule, all the works connected with the department should be completed swiftly.

The meeting was held in the presence of the Secretary to the Government, Tamil Development and Information Department Dr.R.Selvaraj, I.A.S., The Director of Information and Public Relations, Thiru. D.Mohan, I.A.S., delivered the welcome address. Thiru. S.S. Saravanan, Additional Director (Information), Thiru. M.P. Anbuchozhan, Additional Director (Public Relations) Joint Directors, Deputy Directors, Assistant Directors and officials also participated in the meeting.

Green Tamil Nadu Mission

Tamil Nadu marches towards self-sufficiency in oxygen for future generations

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin, inaugurated the Green Tamil Nadu Mission on 24.09.2022, to increase the forest cover of Tamil Nadu to 33 percent.

The aim of this mission is to plant 260 crore saplings within 10 years and to increase the forest area of Tamil Nadu from 23.7 percent to 33 percent. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has advised the officials to properly plan the number of saplings to be planted every year from now on, to plant them and to look after them properly till they grow to their full extent.

As a result, an appeal was made on behalf of the Green Tamil Nadu Mission of the Forest Department, that farmers, industrial companies, public welfare associations, nature lovers and individuals, can register their personal details on the website of Green Tamil Nadu Mission (www.greentnmission.com) and get the saplings they need.

Out of the total geographical area of the state of 1,30,060 sq. km, at present the area under Forest and green cover is 30,843 sq. km. To achieve the target of 33 per cent of the Green Tamil Nadu Mission programme, an area of 12,076 sq. km. needs to be brought under Forest and green cover.

Under the Green Tamil Nadu initiative, a target of planting 260 crore saplings has been set in ten years. Of these, 90 crore saplings will be planted in an area of about 11,729 sq.km within the forest, and 175 crore saplings will be planted in areas including agricultural lands outside the forest.

In the first year of the project's launch, 2.80 crore saplings grown in 360 nurseries across Tamil Nadu had been received by Government departments, volunteers and farmers across the state and more than 98.80 percent of saplings had been planted by the end of December 2022. Under this scheme, 3.60 crore saplings will be planted by March 2023.

During 2021-2023, under the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, 2.50 crore saplings were planned to be planted by various departments. Accordingly, 2.80 crore saplings were planted in 2021-2022 and 2022-2023. In Dindigul district alone, 14.18 lakh saplings have been planted. Also, 1,540 people have pre-registered to get 14.86 lakh seeds through Green Tamil Nadu Mission website.

It is planned to plant 2.50 crore saplings in the first year of the Green Tamil Nadu Mission, 7.50 crore saplings in the second year, 15 crore saplings in the third year and 25 crore saplings every year from the fourth year onwards.

Information-gathering work will be initiated in degraded areas to carry out Natural regeneration work with people's support. The project will also explore the possibilities of using machines along with workers in an effort to increase the forest and green cover through Assisted natural regeneration (ANR) model.

There are a number of varieties of taking part in the Mission: Individual participation, community participation, or through district green committee. Others can receive the saplings and plant them in their land. As benefiting from the mission can take time for members of the public, other bodies or nature enthusiasts if they directly approach the District Collectors concerned, two staff members have been appointed for each District Green Committee.

Apart from the existing monitoring facilities to ensure transparency in the implementation of the Green Tamil Nadu Mission and to know that the work is being carried out effectively, third party monitoring is done by NABCONS (NABARD Consultancy Services) of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development.

As of 2021, the classification of forests in Tamil Nadu has been calculated as dense forest, medium dense forest and open forest respectively. At present, there is an area of 8,580 sq. km of open forests and 6,161 sq km of open areas in terms of areas outside forests.

Open Forest

In order to scientifically estimate the carbon stocks in Tamil Nadu forest areas in a modern way, the monetization of the carbon stocks will be shared by the Tamil Nadu Government and the private companies operating in India in the ratio of 60:40 respectively. Currently valued at US$7 per tonne, the monetization of carbon stocks also guarantees economic growth.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu conducts sapling cultivation and planting through the Green Tamil Nadu Mission once in a quarter. The Hon'ble Minister of Forests and the Additional Chief Secretary of Environment, Climate Change and Forests conduct regular inspections every month and monitor the forest and tree cover expansion Project.

In order to increase the forest area of Tamil Nadu, only Kodiakkarai was recognized as a Ramsar site by the international organization in the past. At present, 13 sites protected under the Wetland Development Program through the excellent work of the Forest Department have received Ramsar recognition. Out of the 75 Ramsar sites in India, 14 are located in Tamil Nadu and it is proud to be at the top. Vandalur Arignar Anna Zoological park has been ranked first in India this year for best maintenance.

Also, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, has shown in his two years after assuming office, that the Government of Tamil Nadu is committed to protect forests, wild animals, birds, and especially endangered birds and wild animals.

The Government of Tamil Nadu under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is implementing several pioneering projects for the conservation of wildlife, especially endangered wildlife. Notable among them are;

- India's first dugong sanctuary in the Palk Bay.
- Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary in Villupuram District
- Agathiyar Hills Elephant Sanctuary
- Tiruppur Nanjarayan Tank Bird Sanctuary
- Cauvery South Wildlife Sanctuary
- Project Nilgiri Tahr Conservation Scheme at a cost of Rs.25.14 crore
- Botanical Garden with modern technology at Kadapur, Chengalpattu at a cost of Rs.300 crore.

These innovative initiatives in a very short span of time have given Tamil Nadu a prominent place in wildlife conservation.

In Karur and Dindigul districts, 11,806 hectares of forest areas have been identified as important habitats of the Slender loris. Recognizing the urgent need to protect this species, the Government of Tamil Nadu has announced the establishment of India's first Slender loris Sanctuary 'Kadavur Slender loris Sanctuary' covering an area of 11,806.56 hectares (in seven blocks) in Karur and Dindigul districts.

The number of Paaru vultures in India is declining due to several reasons, mainly due to the adverse effects of some drugs used in veterinary medicine. In order to protect the vulture in the state, the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Forests has constituted a 10-member state-level vulture conservation committee and issued a Government order.

One hundred and fifty NGOs led by nature lovers have joined the Green Tamil Nadu Mission. The Green Environment Trust, which brings together nature lovers' charities, has so far planted one lakh palm in various parts of Chengalpattu district. It has planted 1.50 lakh tree saplings in an area of 150 and encouraged farmers cultivate small groves. By becoming a member of the Trust's water management project, they also working to restore four water bodies in their area and raise the groundwater level.

Similarly, due to the forest and wild animal conservation and development projects being carried out by the Tamil Nadu government, Tamil Nadu will become the first state to increase the forest area to 33 percent by 2031-2032 and to achieve self-sufficiency in oxygen for future generations. For this, more than 100,000 volunteers and entrepreneurs have joined the Green Tamil Nadu Mission as volunteers and are planting and growing saplings to provide oxygen to their surroundings. All people in the state have realized the importance of their role to ensure oxygen for the future generations.

Compiled by:

Joint Director/ Public Relations Officer,

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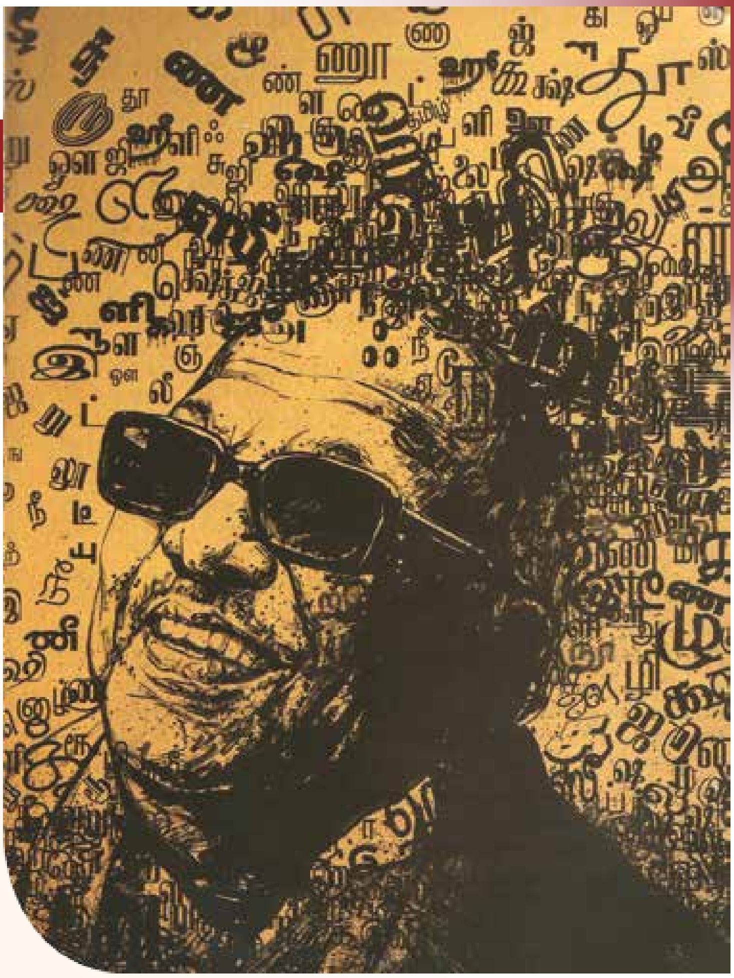
Nanjarayan Tank Bird Sanctuary, Tiruppur

Dr.Kalaignar's adaptation of Sangam Tamil classics



The modern world is in the grip of science and technology. A craze for science is perceptible in academic and social circles, unmindful of the fact that science brings in more evil than good. There is a tendency that the benevolent aspect of medicine, hygiene, computer and engineering technology must be taken to every individual in society. But lesser is the concern about the benevolent effect of ancient history, culture and literature with its imaginative richness and aesthetic beauty being taken to individuals of society. "Literature maketh a man" is an adage almost forgotten, the reason being that among the literate commoners, a desire to read and comprehend the ancient literatures is fastly coming down. The modern world that pays its deep attention to novel, short story and other trifles of little value does not take the pain of analysing the complex structures that are found embedded in the ancient literatures, for comprehending and grasping the tonal and symbolic meanings, rhetorical devices and brevity of expression. That is why the literary fineness and aesthetic beauty of the Sangam literature in Tamil stops at the level of a very few learned scholars and academicians.

In this deplorable contemporary trend,

Dr. Kalaignar's lucid adaptation of an anthology of excerpts in modern free verse from chosen poems of Sangam literature is heartening. This is in a way an intra-lingual translation.

The political whirlpool has taken Dr. Kalaignar to the ups and downs of his public life for the past 40 years. He has subjected himself to rigorous condemnation on the one hand and enviable adoration on the other. He suffered a lot in solitary

confinements after having endured the privation of having been neglected by those who were at one time or other patronised by him. In all these trials and tribulations his only consolation, is his unquenchable thirst for literature and an enlivening attachment to it. He is wedded to the finer aspects of literature through the thick and thin of his tumultuous life. Bharathidasan said that the Tamil is a garden of flowers, and he, is a humble bee ; this can equally be applied to Dr. Kalaignar also.

The intellectual treat of Dr. Kalaignar who has a desire to share his literary enjoyment with others has come out in the form of a free verse presentation entitled ‘Sanga Thamizh’. A lucid and explanatory adaptation of an ancient work rooted in a complex and unintelligible style is by itself a novel experiment. It is not uncommon to give a modern version to an ancient work as this has already been done by A.W. Pollard in his simplified and modern version of Geoffrey Chaucer’s ‘Canterbury tales’, a fifteenth century longer poem. What was done by Dr. Kalaignar is more than that; he has not only given a modern version of it, but also blended it with his lucid and commendable exposition in a style understandable to scholars and public alike.

The time honoured convention in the Tamil literary tradition is to render invocation to Muses. But in a self-respect tradition under the aegis of the thoughts and sentiments of Periyar E.V.R., there is no room for any type of conventional invocation. But Dr. Kalaignar cannot but pay tributes to those who have actually rendered the poems innumerable of the Sangam period. He takes pleasure in notionally showering down handfuls of colourful flowers, the list of which is given in a quotation drawn from Kurinchippattu by Kapilar, the poet. The multi-coloured frontispiece which depicts Dr. Kalaignar himself pouring down the flowers on the heaps of cadjan leaves is very significant and attractive.

Cataloguing the list of heroes, names, of historic places, of trees and flowers has been in vogue for a very long time in literature all over the world. In fact cataloguing has been made use of as a literary device even when literature was kept alive in oral tradition. This may have been a deliberate technique for the sake of readers to keep the names and places deep in memory in the absence of printing devices and papers. The list of innumerable ships in Homer’s Iliad, and that of flowers in the epics of Virgil, and also a list of heroes in Milton’s Paradise Lost are highly comparable.

Sanga Thamizh, a poetic exposition in modern Tamil includes excerpts from Agam, Puram, Pattinappalai, Patitruppattu with a solitary exclusion of Paripadal alone. In free verse style more than 100 liberally rendered poems were all serialised in Kungumam, a literary quarterly. Anthologising the serialised articles subsequently in the form of a volume is universally practised. Sir Walter Scott the reputed historical novelist, Charles Dickens the social novelist and Thomas Hardy, the famous pastoral novelist, are all known to have brought their creations in voluminous editions after having serialised them before long. Some creative writers have the technique of dragging on their stories and novels to maintain suspense and circulation. But Dr. Kalaignar’s free verse expositions stand individually unique in as much as they meaningfully revolve around either a single poem or a part of the poem. And hence they are in no way an attempt to maintain the technique of the trade as found in the

journals. In other words, it is not a time-killing venture but a genuine literary effort unsullied by the seasonal technique of the journalistic world. The poetic expositions of Dr. Kalaignar not only contain the paraphrase, comparative statements, literary and historical allusions, but also his own comments and interpretations. This is the reason why even the original 10 lines get themselves elongated to about 100 poetical lines. In a few places they are rhythmical, sonorous and majestic even to the extent of attuning them to instruments like cymbals, tabors and small drums.

In explaining a poem from Purananuru by Cheraman Kanaikal Irumporai, he comments that it was he who ruled Tondi, a coastal town and also located it as Dindis as referred to by the Greeks. One more information to identify the king is that a learned poet Poikaiyar has adored him in his work Kalavali Narpathu.

In commenting on a famous poem by Kaniyan Poongundran, Dr. Kalaignar celebrates his gentle qualities, contrasting them thereby with the opportunists and time-serving elements whom he probably encountered in his life.

In explaining a term that real fruition of richness is to give alms in charity, he makes a mention that a clarion call in favour of Communism is not new to the Tamils. Even the good old Tamil poet Nakkirar speaks very well of the benevolent aspect of common welfare, he adds. In this context he quotes Arignar Anna who once raised a question to the rich and affluent, whether they eat the gems, pearls and precious stones: This question reminds us of the fact that how far Dr. Kalaignar is very much attached to his political mentor even to recall him in a literary discourse as this. Dr. Kalaignar's depth in literary and historical matters is borne by the fact that what all he mobilises on Tontaiman Ilantiraiyan are found in the commentary of a single poem.

He draws a comparison with the description of Kalidasa to a comment on a single sentence that speaks about the scorching heat of a drought-prone summer. Unable to withstand the scorching heat of a mid-summer day, a frog is said to have gone to a frail and little shade under the hooded cobra, unmindful of the impending disaster.

A poem by Pakkudukkai Nankaniyar is explained as that of a poet who has dressed himself scantily with a cloth normally used for making a cloth bag. The poet's name is explained in these terms by reputed scholars like V.V.S. Iyer and others. But Dr. Kalaignar has split this proper noun so as to mean that even this scanty dress he would not wear like all the Digambara sect of Jaina saints, evidencing a realistic and imaginative touch of Dr. Kalaignar. One more interesting comment on the analytical thinking of ancient Tamils on science comes out when explaining a part of a poem from Purananuru. The crux of the matter is a short line which could literally be rendered as 'a vehicle on the air not driven by a technician'. There are people who plausibly argue that this sentence seems to be a figment of the imagination. This is against those who argue that pilotless planes were in function in the days of yore. Pragmatically speaking, the Tamils have gone behind and far below in science and technology. Dr. Kalaignar attempts to explain the reason for such a miserable state of affairs in the following lines.

"The waning moon we deemed as God

The sun that rises daily we called a Jupiter

In unsavory imaginations luxuriously

We ensconced and slept idly

Such was the way in which we get ourselves engrossed

Instead of analysing the ancestral notes on astronomy and science."

Thus, because of the fact that every poem is added with explanations allusive and associative informations, anecdotes comparative notes and imaginative richness, Dr. Kalaignar's poetic expositions grow ten fold.

One way of writing a poem is to think, re-think, construct, combine, expand, correct, prove and test before printing. This is a method in which Anglo-American poets like Ezra Pound, Eliot have adopted almost similar to a mason putting one brick upon another to construct a house. In the nineteenth century, the genesis of poetry was of a bubbling emotion surging out in the form of a spontaneous utterance in Wordsworth, Keats and Shelley. When an overflowing passion and emotion get the shape of words, they may at times cross over and go beyond grammatical conventions. The scholarly world generously accommodates such fallacies that occur once in a way. Commonly cited example for this is the use of Keats who converted the noun form 'throat' into 'throated', in his famous poem Ode to a Nightingale. Similarly Dr. Kalaignar uses the word 'Kalagi' almost a neo-logism to mean a woman who picks up quarrels and calamities.

It is a known fact that Dr. Kalaignar is a rationalist. The twitching of a lizard that crawls across the wall is taken for a foretelling since time immemorial. The popular belief is that the beating of the right eye lids for the man and that of the left for ladies is indicative of a good omen in life. In explaining a poem from Kurunthokai, the following poetical lines occur.

"Effect there is surely to the sound of the lizard

Though this is not acceptable to the rationalists"

The rationalist would not pay heed to the customary sound of the lizard. But whether the author accepts it or not is not found in the text. On the basis of our knowledge and circumstantial evidence, we can infer that he would not, but his poetical lines do not bear evidence to it. Such talented revelation of not enabling us to understand his subjective feeling, is a device which the Sanskritists call Chamathkaram. Kalaignar is occasionally an adept of this art as is evidenced by this work.

There are eleven explanatory poems, all appreciable only to those who know the nuances and intricacies of Tamil music. Except for two in the Sindhu-Bhairavi raga, the remaining nine poems are arranged in nine different ragas. Obviously Dr. Kalaignar is very much conversant with the various notes and styles of Tamil music. At length it must be said that from age-old literature of the Sangam era, he has given his poetical revelations which are in fact appreciable narratives and historic information in a comprehensive contemporary style.

-An excerpt from 'Sanga Thamizh – A critique'

(Tamilarasu - 1990)

April 14: Birth anniversary of Dr.B.R.Ambedkar

India's first Law University named after Dr. Ambedkar

❖ The First Arts College named after Dr. Ambedkar was established in the year 1972 at Vyasarpadi, Chennai by the Government of Tamil Nadu headed by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar. It was the first of its kind in India.

❖ The Hamilton Bridge at Mylapore was renamed after Dr. Ambedkar by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar (1972).

❖ Muthamizharignar Kalaignar ordered the Centenary Celebrations of Dr. Ambedkar throughout the year 1990.

❖ Also Madras Law College was named after Dr. Ambedkar by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

❖ A Trust was established (Rs. 25 lakh) in Dr. Ambedkar's name at Salem Periyar University and scholarships for students being provided.

❖ Again, for the very first time a University was named by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar as Dr. Ambedkar Law University

❖ An annual award was announced in 1994 in the name of Dr. Ambedkar. It was implemented in the year 1998 by the regime of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

❖ A memorial was established at Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai for Dr. Ambedkar and unveiled by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar on 10.06.2000, at a cost of Rs.4 crore.

Great leader of Dravidian resurgence

The Dravidian people's leader Sir Pitti Theagarayar, laboured to end their slavery and pave the way for their self-respect. He also held positions in this regard, in the political, economic, and social spheres.

He worked tirelessly to lay the fundamental groundwork for us. Sir Theagarayar was the great personage who breathed new life into the Dravidian movement.

He planted a germ, and it has flourished. We are only operating under the banner of the social revolution that he raised.

He was born during a time when the Dravidian race experienced great hardship. He was concerned about these travails. He got to work to eliminate the inequalities. Individually, he had no problems. It was his view that spreading information to the populace was more crucial than anything else.

At that time, he started his crusade. We are all congratulating ourselves and celebrating the outcome of that campaign. Today, we take pride in the growth of the Dravidian race.

He provided us with a roadmap for achieving triumph day by day. His words spread gradually and consistently from the huts of the poor before reaching the mansions of the rich people. As a result, there was a revolution among the populace. Sir Theagarayar demonstrated numerous novel revivals.

Even though Sir Theagarayar has passed away, memories of him will not fade away. The Dravidian movement which has grown greatly by following the principles that he championed with so much effort, will achieve more triumphs.

--Perarignar Anna's speech on June 30, 1950, at the memorial meeting held at Triplicane, Chennai.

'Illam Thedi Kalvi scheme lays the foundation for the bright future of students'

In keeping with Valluvar's dictum that education alone is one's indestructible wealth, not one's material possessions (Kedil vizhuchelvam kalvi oruvarkku/ Maadalla matrai yavai), the 'Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme' was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K.Stalin on 27.10. 2021 at Mudaliarkuppam, Villupuram District.

Although all sections of people were impacted by the Corona pandemic, school children were the most severely hit. Students who were used to going to school to learn, were restricted to their homes by the pandemic. They were psychologically affected because of being denied the use of the wider spaces of school and being detained within the confines of their homes.

To correct this negative impact, the Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme is being implemented to enable the students to spend more hours in learning as they do in school. For this, places were chosen near the residences of the students. Every day in the evening, for one to two hours, depending on convenience, teachers focus their attention on educating the students, under the supervision of headmasters and with the cooperation of volunteers.

In other words, under the Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme, the responsibility of the teachers does not end with school but extends to the homes of the students. In general, necessity is the mother of invention. The Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme was born because of the pressures of the Corona pandemic.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister is announcing several relaxations since the Corona impact has diminished. He gave the directive that schools and colleges should open first. By this time, classes 9, 10, 11, and 12 had begun. After that, courses from first to eighth grade were opened on November 1 and students began attending classes.

Online classes were being held when the lockdown continued. However, online classes cannot take the place of the education provided in schools. The Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme was started with this view in mind.

Students have to make more efforts to make up for the time lost because of the Corona pandemic. We can't accomplish this by merely using school hours. Consequently, a few hours were set aside for education in addition to the school periods. Voluntary organizations have also offered to work alongside the teachers to put this into action. This exceptional scheme is a great effort to extend the classroom outside of schools. This scheme is a model for other states to follow. By taking part in this program, educated youth make good use of their free time.

Whether it is the Higher Education Department or the School Education Department, the goal is to deliver the best education to everyone. The Illam Thedi Kalvi scheme launched by the school education department has received widespread acclaim, and Tamil Nadu will soon be recognised as the best state for education. The distance between households and schools has been shortened. The homes of students are becoming schools.

With the motive that the student community should gain from considering schools to be like their home, on 01.12.2021, the Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme was officially launched by the Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Thiru. S. Muthusamy, at the Koorapalayam Middle School at Koorapalayam, Erode.

Volunteers sign up online to participate in the scheme by registering their names on the website. A total of 10,615 persons have registered their names as Volunteers in Erode District so far. First, 1,250 people were summoned, and after a skills test and group discussion, 738 people were chosen. After receiving thorough training in teaching children using learning materials, and other related topics, the chosen volunteers were assigned to 341 primary school centres and 194 high school centres, resulting in a total of 535 centres that are currently operational. There are at present 7,820 children attending school under the Illam Thedi Kalvi scheme in Erode District. Of these, around 5,135 primary school pupils and 2,685 high school students make up the total number of students enrolled under the scheme. This scheme will be implemented gradually

Selvi Jayapriya, Selvan Manoj Kumar
Father's name: Thiru. Vadivel, Mother's Name: Tmt. Angammal
Erode Panchayat Union, Koorapalayam, Panchayat Union Middle School

throughout the Erode district's residential areas.

Manoj Kumar and Jayapriya, siblings from Koorapalayam Panchayat, Erode Panchayat Union, are beneficiaries of the scheme. Their parents spoke about the scheme with great joy:

My husband's name is Vadivel, and I am Angammal (34). We work for daily wages. At Koorapalayam Middle School of Erode Panchayat Union, our children Manoj Kumar, who is in the seventh grade, and Jayapriya, who is in the fifth grade, are currently enrolled. During the Corona period, no schools functioned. Books were provided by the school to our children. In this period, our children were learning only through the Kalvi Channel on television.

Now the schools have been opened. When our children ask any doubts, we are not in a position to clear them. Now, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has inaugurated Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme, apart from the education in schools, in order to make the time of students at home useful as well. Under this scheme, a volunteer Thiru Poomani is taking classes every

Selvan Sivakowsigan
Father's name: Thiru. Krishnakumar, Mother's Name: Tmt. Devi
Erode Panchayat Union, Koorapalayam, Panchayat Union Middle School

day for one hour or one-and-a-half hours near our home.

In addition to theory classes, practical classes are also offered. This facility is being used by about 20 kids at the centre next to our house. The interest that our kids have in their education is also increasing. We gratefully thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for creating a magnificent programme that allows the children of the underprivileged and disadvantaged to get education in an unhampered manner.

Sivakowsigan, a 14-year-old student from Koorapalayam in the Erode Panchayat Union, asserted the following:

I am studying 8th standard in Panchayat Union Middle School at Koorapalayam My parents are farmers. As there were no schools open and I was learning solely at home during the Corona period, I was unable to get any of my questions answered. Schools have now started, and the Hon'ble Chief Minister has introduced the Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme. Teachers attend special classes in the evenings in our residential neighbourhoods, close to our houses. I can now clear my doubts from the teachers. I want to

Selvan Dinesh Kumar, Selvan Gowthaman
Father's name: Thiru. Samiyappan, Mother's Name: Tmt. Valarmathi
Erode Panchayat Union, Koorapalayam, Panchayat Union Middle School

express my gratitude to the Honorable Chief Minister for starting this programme.

The parents of Dinesh Kumar and Gowthaman from Koorapalayam, Erode Panchayat Union, shared the following views with joy:

My name is Valarmathi (40), and my husband's name is Samiyappan. He makes a living by running a tea shop. Of the two of our sons, the younger boy is in fifth grade, while the elder one is in eighth grade. The senior son is differently abled. Schools remain closed for more than one-and--half years during the Corona period and have opened now.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has launched the Illam Thedi Kalvi Scheme to encourage students to learn continuously apart from what they are learning in school, and to make use of their free time. With the help of this scheme, children may safely learn from centres close to their homes without having to go to school to have their doubts cleared. We would like to sincerely thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for introducing such schemes to create a solid foundation for the good future of students. ■

-Compiled by
Public Relations Officer,
Erode district

News in Picture

169th birth anniversary of 'Thamizh Thaathaa' Dr. U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer

The Director of Information and Public Relations Department Thiru. D.Mohan I.A.S., and the Director of Tamil Development Department Dr. N. Arul paid floral tributes to a portrait of 'Thamizh Thaathaa' Dr.U.Ve. Swaminatha Iyer placed near his statue, on the occasion of his 169th birth anniversary in the campus of Presidency College, Chennai on 19.02.2023 and other Government higher officials were present.

Sagas of success

Karur District

Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam Scheme receives 'a million thanks' from the people

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru M.K. Stalin has been implementing several welfare schemes for the people of Tamil Nadu since the day he assumed the position of Chief Minister of the State.

A healthy life for everyone is an important promise made by Stalin in the long-term ten year plan based on 'Stalin's Seven Promises'. To implement the promise, the Hon'ble Chief Minister launched the 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' Scheme at Samanappalli, a village in Shoolagiri Union, Krishnagiri District on 05.08.2021.

Patients have traditionally gone to hospitals for help when they need frequent care for conditions like blood pressure, diabetes, kidney problems, physiotherapy, cancer, etc. The Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam Scheme altered the situation, and as part of the Scheme's mission, the Medical personnel now visit patients' homes to conduct examinations, administer medication, including tablets, and extend the people other medical services.

In this program, Public health workers and medical volunteers will participate and provide medical services. In the first phase some essential medical services are provided. In the first phase of this scheme, 1,264 women Health volunteers, 50 physiotherapists, 50 nurses are engaged in this service. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has said that this scheme, which has been started in some parts of Tamil Nadu on a trial basis, will be expanded to the entire state by the end of this year. Also, he has allocated Rs.242 crore for this scheme. By the end of this year, about 35 lakh families will be benefited under this scheme.

At Aravakurichi, Karur District, the Hon'ble Minister for Electricity, Prohibition & Excise, Thiru V. Senthil Balaji inaugurated 05.08.2021, the field work of distributing tablets to patients under the Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam Scheme, in a function over which the District Collector Dr. Prabhushankar, I.A.S presided.

At the Aravakurichi division of Karur ,in-home examinations and two-month supply of medicines were given to 58,903 blood pressure patients, 41,652 diabetic patients, and 28,035 blood pressure and diabetic patients. Medical treatment was also offered to 4,370 physiotherapy patients, 3,835 cancer and skin ailment patients and very senior citizens.

Here are the responses of some persons of Aravakurichi division in Karur district:

My name is Nallan. I am 75 years old. I live in the Old Colony close to Seethapatti. I have two children. They are married but are divorced. I have been suffering from high blood pressure for seven years. Sometimes I go for work under the 100 days work programme. I used to get my medications from the Malaikovil Primary Health Centre. I am unable to go to work whenever I visit the health centre to get medicines. Four days ago, a nurse visited our home to check my blood pressure and gave me the medicines for two months. She told me that I did not need to visit the health centre for checkup and obtaining medicines as the Hon'ble Chief Minister had started a scheme called Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam and from now on nurses would visit him at come, conduct the check up

Thiru. Nallan

and deliver the medicines. I want to thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister for implementing so many beneficial programmes to ease the suffering of the underprivileged and needy

Another beneficiary had the following response:

My names is Kunjaram. I am 45 years old. I reside in Sidharpatti colony. I am suffering from diabetes for the past ten years. Because of diabetes, I am not able to walk fast. My husband Subramani suffered a minor accident four months ago and is not able to walk. I used to go to the PHC at Malaikovilur to get my pills for diabetes. I have not been able do so for the past two months. Two months back nurse amma came home. She did the sugar test and then gave me the medicines. 'How is it that you are calling upon me and giving me the medicines,' I asked her.

She told me that the Hon'ble Chief Minister has started a scheme by which the nurses go to the sugar and blood pressure patients, conduct their test and give them medicines. I am not able to go to work even for the 100 days scheme, but the Hon'ble Chief Minister has formulated a scheme under which nurses visit me and conduct the tests and hand over the medicines to me. Long live the Hon'ble Chief Minister who is implementing such a scheme…I want to convey a million thanks to him.

Tmt. Kunjaram

'As there is not enough space in a single mother's womb, we are born in the wombs of a million mothers…But we are siblings,'' said Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

In keeping with these words, considering the people of Tamil Nadu as his sibling, the Hon'ble Chief Minister is implementing the Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme that is a model for the whole of India.

The people of Karur district wish to say a million thanks to express their gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for the life-saving Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam scheme.

Compiled by:
Public Relations Officer
Karur District

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin made a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India **Thiru. Narendra Modi,** at his residence on Lok Kalyan Marg, New Delhi, and presented him with a statuette of Tiruvalluvar, on 28.02.2023.

Tamilarasu

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The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** inaugurated the second phase of the Pudhumai Penn scheme under which an additional 1,04,347 beneficiaries who opt for collegiate education after having studied from 6th to 12th in Government schools, are to be given Rs.1,000 a month, under the Moovalur Ramamirtham Ammaiyar Higher Education Assurance Scheme and distributed debit cards to ten girls as a token, at a function at Hindu College, Pattabiram in Tiruvalluvar District on 08.02.2023.

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